

Routes to tour in Germany

The Nibelungen Route

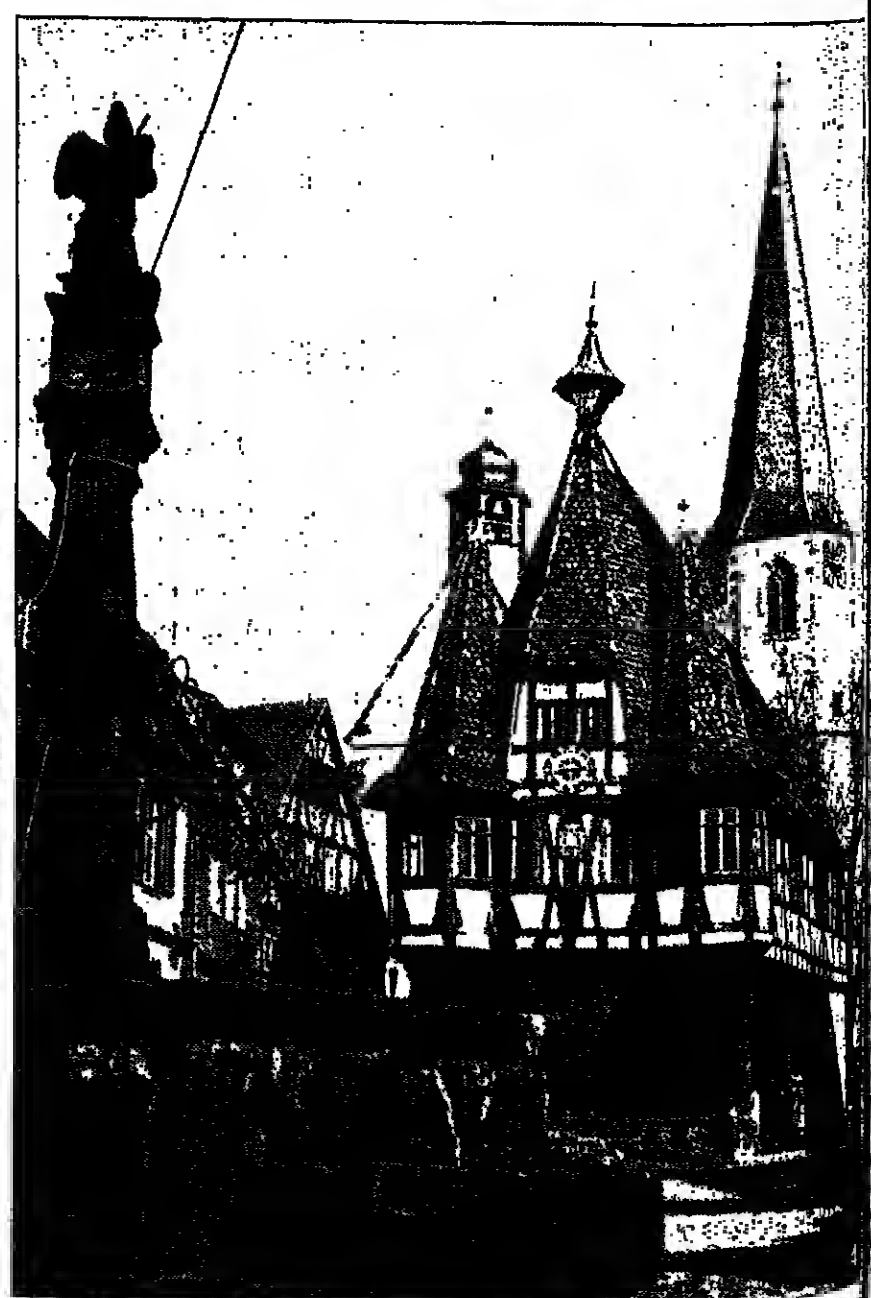
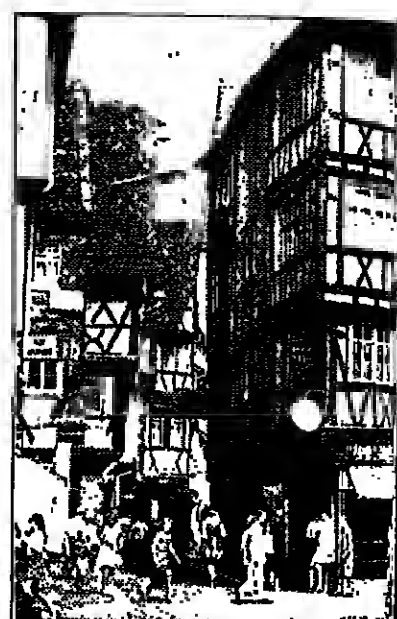


German roads will get you there — to the Odenwald woods, for instance, where events in the Nibelungen saga, the mediaeval German heroic epic, are said to have taken place. Sagas may have little basis in reality, but these woods about 30 miles south of Frankfurt could well have witnessed gaiety and tragedy in days gone by. In Worms, on the left bank of the Rhine, people lived 5,000 years ago. From the 5th century AD the kings of Burgundy held court there, going hunting in the Odenwald. With a little imagination you can feel yourself taken back into the past and its tales and exploits. Drive from Wertheim on the Main via Miltenberg and Amorbach to Michelstadt, with its 15th century half-timbered *Rathaus*. Cross the Rhine after Bensheim and take a look at the 11th to 12th century Romanesque basilica in Worms.

Visit Germany and let the Nibelungen Route be your guide.

- 1 The Hagen Monument in Worms
- 2 Miltenberg
- 3 Odenwald
- 4 Michelstadt
- 5 Wertheim

DZT DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE FÜR TOURISMUS E.V.
Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



The German Tribune

Hamburg, 30 June 1985
Twenty-fourth year - No. 1185 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

Return of the hijack age after a deceptive calm

Süddeutsche Zeitung

When a German anti-terrorist unit freed a hijacked Lufthansa airliner in Mogadishu in October 1977 one of the heads of the many-headed hydra-headed terrorism seemed effectively to have been severed.

The GSG-9 operation in Mogadishu was modelled on the 1976 Israeli airlift in Entebbe and the successful armed attack to free a Sabena airliner at Tel Aviv airport in 1972.

Even though everyday terror — gunnings, car-bombs and bombs planted in buildings — continued to take its toll of blood in Europe and the Middle East, the tide of terrorism seemed to have ebbed in the Western democracies' favour.

Terrorism may have sealed new heights with the mass murder of US, French and Israeli soldiers in Lebanon, but civil aviation seemed largely to be spared further escalation.

This cockpit peace was deceptive, the hydra-headed monster is alive and well. Only the cast has changed.

It used to be the PLO and its sidekicks, including its German stooges, that specialised in taking planeloads of holidaymakers hostage.

Their role has now been taken over by Shi'ite gangs that claim to be waging jihad, or holy war, that lends religious justification to their every crime.

Worse still, the new moralists are not representatives of a kind of private enterprise who aim to settle scores or to transform the world in their own distorted image by means of propaganda deed and at the expense of innocent lives.

Terrorism 1980s-style is not just an outcry of the oppressed who hope by means of a sub-machine gun or a truckload of dynamite to gain a hearing and mobilise feelings of guilt in the post-industrial Western world.

Murder and abduction are too often as a ploy in day-to-day politics, especially in the Middle East and in a war all against all that can with growing justification be called state terrorism.

Syrians kill Jordanians and Iraqis. Libyans blow up Iraqis. Libyans aren't fussy as long as their victims are felt to be enemies of Colonel Gaddafi.

Arabs, Palestinians and Sunni Muslims each other in a three-cornered conflict.

The escape-valve view of terrorism seems to have been displaced by the triangle linking Damascus and Tehran with their respective allies in Lebanon.

der of Bashir Gemayel, brother of the present Lebanese head of state, in 1982 and Iran with the suicide raids on French, Israeli and US troops last year.

It may be no coincidence that shortly before the TWA jet was hijacked no fewer than three Iranian delegations visited Syria, from where it is child's play to cross into Lebanon.

Nabih Berri cuts a brilliant figure as the classic symbol of the new terrorism in his threefold role as Lebanese Justice Minister, head of the Shi'ite Amal militia and mediator and terrorists' advocate in the Beirut hostage drama.

As a mediator he talks in statesmanlike terms of his responsibility for the American hostages, yet as an advocate he has embraced the cause of terrorism.

"If Israel failed to release its Shi'ite prisoners," says the Lebanese Justice Minister, "I would tell the hijackers to do what they liked with the hostages."

We may never know what Berri's role in the Lebanese war of the jungles is: that of an instigator or of a man taken by surprise.

All that can be said for sure is that he and his Shi'ite followers would gain enormously in stature if they succeeded in forcing Israel to free their co-religionists.

People are sacrificed by the hundred as a matter of routine in Lebanon in the interest of the greater cause, that of consolidating power.

By Lebanese standards and in terms of present-day Lebanese values 20 or 30 hostages are of little consequence.

Yet Mr Berri and his associates face a problem that cannot be solved in the customary Lebanese manner. The hostages now hidden in the labyrinth of west Beirut hold American passports.

For America the hostages' fate is a repeat of the Tehran hostage affair that ended, after a painful year, in barely concealed humiliation for the United States.

The desire for revenge is deep-seated and an aircraft carrier squadron of the US Sixth Fleet is already patrolling the Lebanese coast, with a second armada of 1,500 tried and trusted US Marines en route from Gibraltar.

But who are the Marines and the USS Nimitz's bombers to strafe? Missiles might shake the rubble that is Beirut yet

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Mexican visitor

Economic issues were high on the agenda when the Mexican President, Miguel de la Madrid, visited the Federal Republic. Here he is welcomed to Bonn by President Richard von Weizsäcker (right). (Photo: Bundesbildstelle)

Terror hits the weakest point, international transport

There seems to be no end to the succession of terrorist raids in which innocent people are killed in a chain of violence and terror that spreads shock and horror in our world of advanced technology.

The world had only just followed with hated breath the saga of a Jordanian airliner hijacked and blown up.

Then came a fresh hostage drama in Beirut, and the world looked on helplessly as a passenger was murdered in cold blood and his body thrown on to the runway.

As if that were not enough, a bomb wrought havoc at Frankfurt airport, killing three, including two children.

The injured squirmed amid the rubble, chaos and panic spread.

We may not yet know for sure who planted the Frankfurt bomb and whether it was directly linked to the Beirut hijacking, but indirect links definitely exist.

The mere fact that terrorists of all hues constantly wreak havoc at air-

ports and railway stations and on planes and trains testifies to similar strategies.

Innocent and unsuspecting air and rail travellers feel particularly safe in the hands of an institution such as an airline or a national railway system.

Advanced societies are nowhere more vulnerable than in the international transport sector, a sensitive network symbolically linking people all over the world.

Those who seek to tear the network apart by resorting to violence not only have an easy time of it; they can also be sure of international attention.

Worldwide news coverage — publicity — is the real aim of both the Frankfurt terrorists and the Beirut hijackers.

Politically, terrorist raids over the past 15 years have had no lasting effect, merely sending 'shock' waves round the world for a few days.

President Reagan, who faces the toughest challenge in his White House career at the hands of a handful of despicable blackmailers, is right in refusing to enter into compromises of whatever kind.

Questionable concessions are no use. The civilised world cannot, unless it is prepared to give itself up, afford to kowtow to terrorists.

How else — other than sternly — can one deal with creatures for whom there is good reason to kill people arbitrarily?

Bernd Stadelmann
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 20 June 1985)

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WORLD AFFAIRS

Gorbachev lets Europe play bigger role in foreign policy thinking

Following Mikhail Gorbachev's first three months in office it looks as if, for the third time in just under three years, yet another Soviet leader has gambled away the opportunity of moving closer to the American president.

Things are stagnating in Geneva and a summit meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan this year is improbable.

Instead of slowing down the arms race the Soviets and the Americans wag their fingers at the respective sins of the other side: militarisation of space and mobilisation against Central America on the one hand, conveyor-belt missile production and continuing barbarity in Afghanistan on the other.

Has the foreign policy course pursued by the 54 year-old head of the Kremlin already come unstuck? Can it already be said after only twelve weeks in office that Gorbachev has failed to provide new impetus to Soviet diplomacy?

The answer must be in the negative in view of current developments. So far the new helmsman in Moscow has cleverly harnessed the winds of international politics to steer his own course.

This is particularly true with regard to President Reagan's space-weapons programme.

At some stage in the future the "Strategic Defence Initiative" (SDI) could become a military and technological challenge to the Soviet Union. At the moment, however, the SDI discussion is a godsend for Gorbachev.

It comes just at the right time for the general secretary as he is much more interested in Europe than his predecessors in office.

Whereas Brezhnev and Andropov tried in vain to break up Americans and Europeans to prevent missile deployment in Europe, Gorbachev has regained a foothold on the old continent and found a sympathetic ear.

Ever since his spectacular visit to London in December 1984 Moscow's mere anti-SDI propaganda has turned into an almost respected influence on the Atlantic side of Reagan's "star wars" ambitions.

Although the two superpowers are still fighting a cold war they are not engaged in mutual confrontation in any of the classic trouble spots in Asia, the Middle East or Asia.

This leaves Gorbachev plenty of scope to demonstrate composed diplomatic initiative at home. In rapid succession there have been visits to Moscow by India's prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, the American secretary of commerce, Baldrige, the chairman of the SPD, Willy Brandt, and Italy's prime minister, Craxi.

Is the new party leader therefore taking advantage of the current situation to beat Ronald Reagan at his own game on the stage of international politics, demonstrating charm, an eye for good publicity and visions to conceal what are really unchanged and inflexible concepts?

A great deal would suggest that the farmer's son from Stavropol has more to offer than his predecessors in the field of foreign policy (with the exception perhaps of the young Stalin, whose methods fortunately in way resemble those employed by Gorbachev).

Those who read his speeches more closely gain the impression that a lifetime after the October Revolution the Soviet Union has a leader who is convinced that

the final guarantor of national security is the economic and not military strength of the Soviet Union.

However, the question is whether he can gain support for this conviction in the Kremlin and the White House and effect a policy in the face of an arms race automatism on both sides which can strike a better balance between the security interests of the Soviet Union and the security needs of the rest of the world.

Gorbachev already cautiously tried to introduce a new approach before he became party leader.

A long way off from the world-revolutionary, i.e. imperial, emotionalism of the old guard he declared in a speech given to top party officials in December 1984: "Socialism has influenced and influences the development of the world most strongly via its economic policies, via successes in the socio-economic field."

Gorbachev already indicated a change towards the new willingness to seek dialogue in his capacity as politburo supremo a year ago.

Two months later, in September 1984, Moscow began to free itself from the self-isolation imposed by foreign minister, Andrei Gromyko.

In Smolensk Gorbachev declared that the Soviet leadership is "by no means of the opinion that détente has been directly undermined" and added: "the world does not want to and will not live under an American diktat, and we are convinced that sooner or later the international community will be able to bring those politicians back on to the path of realism who have forgotten their responsibility and jeopardise the existence of mankind."

Earlier speeches already showed that although Gorbachev is more optimistic

DIE ZEIT

and accommodating in comparison with the grimly threatening mannerism of the Soviet foreign minister, when it comes to international relations, he does not focus so heavily on the United States and turns much more emphatically towards the rest of the world.

In his December 1984 speech setting out his basic policy principles Gorbachev did not portray the Americans as the muscle-bound leader and seducer of the capitalist world. This was a conspicuous departure from the usual Kremlin perspective.

In this speech Gorbachev pointed towards a "gradual yet increasingly apparent loss" by the United States of its former political and economic supremacy and an erosion of its position in comparison to the new centres of power, above all in Western Europe and Japan.

Immediately after taking over as party leader Gorbachev at least gave the impression that he shared the misgivings of other countries with regard to the bipolar model of the world.

In an interview with Pravda on 8 April he said:

"The relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States is an extremely important factor in international politics. However, we by no means look at the world through the prism of this relationship. We appreciate the weight car-

ried by other countries in international affairs."

This leitmotif, which has been fostered during recent talks with western politicians, is in no way merely an attempt by the party leader in "hegemony" Willy Brandt, as claimed by the CDU and CSU.

Gorbachev made a much more lasting impression, for example, on Britain's conservative prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, than anyone would have thought possible before his visit to London.

His good will campaign in Europe also fits in well with the policies pursued by the two socialist governments in France and Italy, which reject Ronald Reagan's SDI plans. Italy's prime minister, Craxi, made this clear during his visit to Moscow and president Francois Mitterrand will soon follow suit in Paris.

Washington and the supporters of the Washington line in the Federal Republic of Germany interpret the situation as follows: the "impressive salesman of ideas" Gorbachev (vice-president Bush) has nothing else in mind but to drive a wedge between the Americans and the Europeans so as to prevent SDI.

The suggestion made by Gorbachev on 8 April to freeze all the arms and developments under discussion at the Geneva negotiations in their present levels was described by Nato officials in Brussels as a "classic example of Soviet diplomacy, whose intention it is to split the western alliance."

However, this is an oversimplification. Although the new party leader may be trying to take advantage and exaggerate difference of opinion in the West, particularly now that Reagan's futuristic space plans threaten to turn the Atlantic Alliance into a no-future community, it is important to take a closer look at the nuances in his policy towards the West.

There are signs that the former student of jurisprudence is much more strongly oriented towards the traditions, history and cultural heritage of the old continent than the party veterans and is trying to make political capital out of this fact.

The old guard with its extensive economic model and great efforts to become a world power concentrated on "catching up and overtaking" America.

Modern variants have emerged from this traditional fixation; one of them is the moderate, reformist and détente-oriented position supported, for example, by the head of the America Institute, Georgij Arbatov.

The aim of this group of advisers is - or at least was for a long time - détente under the control of the two superpowers. They would like to see the world by and large split up into American and Soviet spheres of influence.

However, these arguments for a big "deal" with the Americans are obsolete for the time being in view of Ronald Reagan's presidency.

The new general secretary would seem to listen more closely to the advice of those advisers who advocate a "polycentric" approach to the western world.

One of these advisers is the director of the International Institute for World Economy and International Relations, Alexander Jakovlev. He belonged to the delegation which accompanied Gorbachev during his spectacular visit to London.

Jakovlev supports the following line: "the historically predictable future of the centrifugal tendencies in the capitalist world will grow."

The Soviet party leader, however, will have to take at least two steps if he wishes to convince the Europeans in the long run that he is serious about his concept of political détente as a form of economic betterment.

Firstly, he must sail out of the framing wake of Andrei Gromyko's course in discussions with the Americans. In particular, impartial Europeans have had enough of the self-opinionatedness and hypocrisy shown by both sides in the field of arms policy negotiations.

Secondly, Gorbachev will have to take specific European interests into consideration, in accordance with the Lord Palmerston statement he quoted in London: "States have no allies, but interests."

For if the party leader only welcomes the Europeans as auxiliary troops in his fight against SDI he will not be able to make use of the "common house" (as Gorbachev calls Europe).

Gorbachev would appear to have realised this fact. During talks with Italy's prime minister, Craxi, he recently indicated a willingness to establish political contacts with the EC.

It is time, he said, for this western community and the eastern Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) to "establish mutually beneficial relations in the economic field."

Gorbachev continued: "In so far as EC countries act as a 'political unit' we are willing to jointly seek a common language for specific international problems."

In making this offer Gorbachev has broken with tradition, indeed he has turned the tables.

Up to now, the Kremlin has rejected the EC as a partner precisely because it was regarded as a political and not just economic union.

Although the idea that the EC and CMEA may one day find joint solutions to the burning political problems of the day may seem very abstract, the fact that Gorbachev discusses the possibility shows that he is much more interested in Europe than his predecessors.

During Craxi's visit to Moscow Gorbachev also talked of the possibility of a "qualitative leap" to revive détente.

The Kremlin has shown a willingness to make step-by-step quantitative improvements. After 16 months of abstinence at the conference on confidence-building measures the Soviet Union has forwarded new proposals on a more exact notification procedure for manoeuvres.

Gorbachev has developed a new style to impress the Europeans. His admission that the Soviet Union has also been conducting military space research is also a sign of more open information policy.

However, the content of the numerous disputes will be more difficult to handle, for example, the differences of opinion on whether to include the French and British strategic arms in the disarmament dialogue. The Americans and the Europeans

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The German Tribune

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Sothen's Avenue, 0-2000 Hamburg 76, Tel. 22 85 1, Telex 02-1778
Editor-in-Chief: Otto Heinz, Editor: Alexander Andropov
English language sub-editor: Birgit Bunnell - Distribution manager: Georgine Plesner

Advertising rates for No. 15
Annual subscription DM 45
Printed by CW Neumann-Druck, Hamburg
Distributed in the USA by: MASS MAILING, Inc., 50 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011

Articles in THE GERMAN TRIBUNE are transmitted by the original text and published by agreement with the newspaper in the Federal Republic of Germany

In all correspondence, please quote your subscription number which appears on the wrapper, between asterisks, above your address

HOME AFFAIRS

SPD begins to regain its momentum

Röln Stadt-Anzeiger

The Opposition Social Democrats are more confident than for some time. Only a few months ago they seemed to be waging a hopeless campaign.

But some now see the Bonn coalition's crisis performance, especially that of the Christian Democrats, as a kind of *Kahlschlag*, or Twilight of the Chancellor (CDU Chancellor Helmut Kohl).

Some Social Democrats even create the impression that the SPD is on the verge of winning control.

There can be no doubt that the SPD has gained momentum since losing power in Bonn over two and a half years ago.

State assembly poll successes in the Saar and North Rhine-Westphalia, along with the corresponding relapse offered by Chancellor Kohl's government, have done more than boosted the SPD's self-confidence.

Opinion polls have shown popular support for the Social Democrats to be running at a steady 42 per cent. They were temporarily level-pegging with the Christian Democrats, which fired the SPD's imagination.

Opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel left little doubt to dismiss as inappropriate SPD kite-flying about the possibility of a Chancellor being ousted before the 1987 general election.

He reminded fellow-Social Democrats in the CDU/CSU-FDP coalition still of an unshakable majority and that any chances were hopelessly unrealistic.

If the Social Democrats are to undertake a realistic appraisal of the situation, they must take a level-headed view of their position.

They must, for instance, realise that the poll successes in the Saar, the Rhineland and the Ruhr were due mainly to favourable local circumstances and to the strength of the local SPD leaders, Oskar Lafontaine and Johannes Rau.

They were also due to mid-term dissatisfaction with the Bonn government. So the SPD continues to owe much of its regained strength to the weakness of its adversaries.

There may be a trend toward the SPD, but it is only in the provinces (and by no means universal even there).

SPD leader Willy Brandt has reminded the party that it will have to improve its position considerably in the south and the north-west (in Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg, that is) if it is ever to be in a position to regain a majority in Bonn.

Besides, the process of programmatic renewal within the SPD and its performance in Opposition in Bonn have by no means convinced voters that the Social Democrats are ready yet to return to power.

The SPD would do well to stick to its prescribed medicine and aim at regaining power to Bonn via poll successes in the Länder and in local government elections. It is at these levels that Herr Brandt hopes a successor generation of "childlike" will take over from the old guard.

This new generation, it is hoped, will usher in a period of reconstruction of Social Democratic power.

The next SPD target is the CDU Land government in Lower Saxony, where state assembly elections are due next year.

Social Democratic optimism even feel the party stands a chance of ousting the Christian Democrats next year without the backing of the Greens.

It would be more realistic to work on the assumption that the CDU's lead in Lower Saxony is too great to reverse, especially as Chancellor Kohl is likely to see the Lower Saxon elections as make-or-break for himself and to campaign accordingly.

The outcome will certainly decide who commands the majority in the Bundesrat, or upper house, in Bonn.

If the SPD wins in Lower Saxony it will be able to make life very difficult for the Bonn coalition via the Bundesrat.

The SPD is beginning to conjure no less venturesome, not to say wildly exaggerated visions in preparation for the 1987 general election.

SPD business manager Peter Glotz has announced that the party's aim is to equal or improve on its performance in 1972, when the Social Democrats emerged as the largest single party in the Bundestag.

Yet the 1972 showing was unique, a result of a government in power and with an unusual degree of emotional support from the electorate.

Voters backed the Social Democrats' reform plans and, especially, their policy of coming to terms with the East Bloc.

There are no signs of a comparable political situation in 1987. What is more, the Social Democrats have no prospect of a reliable coalition partner.

At federal level the Greens can hardly be considered.

The Social Democrats also have yet to lay the programmatic groundwork for general election success.

Economic policy was probably what most brought about their downfall in government in 1982, and they have yet to fix this.

Their draft manifesto is due to be published this autumn. It is too early to say whether voters will see it as a convincing alternative.

"Ecological modernisation of the economy" with the aim of "socially acceptable" use of new technologies is still more a slogan than a framework for action.

The SPD may claim to have regained voters' confidence in its ability to fight unemployment.

On environmental affairs it even claims to have come from behind to outpace both the Greens and the Christian Democrats.

Its Work and Environment programme might have helped, but it cannot be considered a solution to the long-term problems of structural economic change resulting in permanent high unemployment.

The Social Democrats' competence in terms of manpower is at least as important as political and programmatic considerations, and in major sectors, especially economic affairs, the Opposition has yet to muster really outstanding people.

Johannes Rau as Shadow Chancellor would, however, be a serious challenger to Chancellor Kohl.

The North Rhine-Westphalian Premier is extremely popular and, as a middle-of-the-road man, he is an ideal challenger.

Social Democrats nonetheless wonder whether their populist North Rhine-Westphalian leader has the political substance and vision to rethink SPD policy.

He is not a thinker who is paving the way for a new look Social Democracy. He may even stand in the way of change.

Claus Weitemann
Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 22 June 1985

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The Social Democrats also have yet to lay the programmatic groundwork for general election success.

Economic policy was probably what most brought about their downfall in government in 1982, and they have yet to fix this.

Their draft manifesto is due to be published this autumn. It is too early to say whether voters will see it as a convincing alternative.

"Ecological modernisation of the economy" with the aim of "socially acceptable" use of new technologies is still more a slogan than a framework for action.

The SPD may claim to have regained voters' confidence in its ability to fight unemployment.

On environmental affairs it even claims to have come from behind to outpace both the Greens and the Christian Democrats.

Its Work and Environment programme might have helped, but it cannot be considered a solution to the long-term problems of structural economic change resulting in permanent high unemployment.

The Social Democrats' competence in terms of manpower is at least as important as political and programmatic considerations, and in major sectors, especially economic affairs, the Opposition has yet to muster really outstanding people.

Johannes Rau as Shadow Chancellor would, however, be a serious challenger to Chancellor Kohl.

The North

PEOPLE

Chief government spokesman resigns as tax men probe

Städtische Zeitung

Chief government spokesman Peter Boenisch has resigned. He is being investigated on allegations of tax evasion.

Herr Boenisch owned a house in Berlin, and one report in Bonn was that the sale of this house had prompted the investigation.

Questioned earlier on the details, he had brushed the query aside, saying he had not made much of a profit after having bought his mother an apartment from the proceeds.

But the tax department is taking a closer look at Herr Boenisch's records back to before he joined the Bonn government two years ago.

He is a former editor of the mass-circulation *Bild-Zeitung*.

When reports that he was to be prosecuted grew, he initially hinted that the situation was not that desperate; he would manage somehow.

He only changed his mind when the Berlin public prosecutor paid him an official visit. He received him in his Bonn office.

In deciding to tender his resignation he was merely pre-empting suspension from duty. Civil servants are liable to suspension while criminal proceedings against them are in progress.

So Peter Boenisch has resigned as a civil servant after only two years in Bonn. When he collects his papers from the head of state he will be entitled to style himself State Secretary Boenisch (rtd).

Chancellor Kohl has had little luck in his choice of government spokesmen. Dieter Stolze, his first choice, was only recruited after others had declined, and he stayed for only a few months.

Herr Boenisch took over in May 1983, having previously served Axel Springer as editor-in-chief of *Bild-Zeitung* and *Die Welt*. He was fired by Springer in 1981.

The Chancellor may count himself lucky on so quickly having found economic affairs correspondent Friedhelm Ost to take Boenisch's place.

Chancellor Kohl had earlier come across Herr Ost, 43, when wondering how the Bonn government's Press and information work might be improved.

CSU leader Franz Josef Strauss, the Bavarian Premier, had been particularly critical of the fact that none of the government's spokesmen had the least idea about economic policy.

Herr Ost is an economics graduate. He studied under Alfred Müller-Armack, the Cologne economics don dubbed the "father of the social market economy."

After working for the Commerzbank he joined the German Banking Association, where his boss was Karl Otto Pöhl,



Peter Boenisch... out
(Photo: Poly-Press)

who is now governor of the Bundesbank.

He then, until last week, spent 13 years with ZDF, Channel 2 of Federal Republic TV, as an economic and monetary affairs specialist.

He first served at ZDF headquarters in Mainz when Karl-Günther von Hase, a past chief government spokesman in Bonn, was director-general.

Herr Ost's green fingers where money is concerned are legendary. He was long in charge of a TV economic affairs magazine and only recently moved "upstairs" as head of current affairs.

Friedhelm Ost has another advantage to which Peter Boenisch couldn't lay claim. He is a member of the "right" political party, Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

Klaus Dreher

(Bild-Zeitung, Munich, 18 June 1985)



Friedhelm Ost... in
(Photo: dpa)

Changing of the guard in Bremen

Nordwest Zeitung NWZ

Two major figures in Bremen city politics, Hanns Koschnick and Moritz Thape, are to retire.

Koschnick, the city's mayor, and Thape, senator in charge of finance, have helped run Bremen for 20 years and will be difficult for the Social Democrats to replace.

SPD leader Konrad Kunick said an era is drawing to a close. He is right. Elections are due in two years. It will be difficult for Koschnick's apparent successor, Klaus Wedemeyer.

He has majority backing from the grass roots and SPD councillors, but it will be hard trying to measure up to Koschnick's track record.

The Christian Democrats, who in Bremen usually poll only 30 per cent and have lately been hit by party-political squabbles and resignations, may stand no real chance of ousting the SPD in the immediate future.

But without Koschnick, who is extremely popular, the Social Democrats might lose their absolute majority.

Koschnick has made skillful use of Opposition arguments to explain his resignation. He travels abroad so much on behalf of the SPD executive, he said, that he could no longer put in a full day's work for Bremen.

The CDU and the Greens had also effectively argued that too many cooks spoiled the broth. The Senate might be reduced in size. His resignation, coupled with that of Finance Senator Moritz Thape, presents an opportunity to do so.

Yet to step down, and to do so together with his deputy and Finance Senator, at such a difficult time for the city would seem to indicate some degree of resignation.

Running Bremen is proving increasingly difficult to reconcile with the need for budget austerity, especially as agreement is growing steadily more difficult to reach in crucial sectors such as port investment.

Given Bremen's high unemployment rate and financial problems it is alarming that the finance and labour departments are temporarily to be merged.

That is surely a false economy.

Wolfgang Loest

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 18 June 1985)

GERMANY

Reconciliation before legal claims, says Weizsäcker

German Unity Day, 17 June, marks a popular uprising in East Germany in 1953. This year, VI. Day was also celebrated in May.

Seldom in the 40 years since the end of the Second World War have we experienced as vividly as this year how ubiquitous the past can be.

It has been a year marked by the Bitburg debate and by disputes about the status of the Hannover conference of German expellees.

Does the German Question remain open or has it been settled by the course

Allgemeine Zeitung

of events? This and other issues do not come in a category that can be answered in one way or another as required by considerations of the day.

There is no full stop in history. Historical processes are marked by change and history has yet to deliver a final opinion on the destiny of Central Europe.

That was why Richard von Weizsäcker, the Bonn head of state, told the Protestant church assembly in Düsseldorf that the present shape of Europe, its political and ideological division, could not be history's last word on the subject.

This diagnosis of President Weizsäcker's stands in reassuringly level-headed yet promising contrast to statements by conservative politicians and expellee officials.

They have tended to call publicly into question what Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss calls the "politically binding nature" of the treaties concluded with the Soviet Union and Poland in 1970.

In major addresses in Bonn and Düsseldorf Richard von Weizsäcker sought to convey certainty that German foreign policy would not be shaking the foundations of the policy of coming to terms with our neighbours to the east.

One can but wonder at Chancellor Kohl's patience with the Silesian expellees' association, which on the eve of the Hannover conference he was to attend, panned the Chancellor for acknowledging as head of government the inviolability of post-1945 borders.

This ignominious tug-of-war on the eve of the Silesian conference harmed both the Chancellor's authority and the credibility of his government's Ostpolitik.

Consideration for a small group of expellee voters cannot be given preference over *raison d'état*.

So far only the President has been straightforward, without ifs and buts, and the response to his speeches both at home and abroad has shown how great a need was felt for his plain speaking.

The East Bloc propaganda campaign accusing the Federal Republic of wanting to revise frontiers is largely a reaction to uncertainty and alarm.

Former Defence Minister Georg Leber spoke to the Bundestag in a televised address on 17 June, German Unity Day.

Herr Leber, no longer a member of the Bundestag, gave a speech which was both brilliant and warmhearted in content and delivery.

It was a superb performance after trials to which the German language had been put in the weeks of debate on the 40th anniversary of the end and long disputes on the German Question.

Herr Leber memorably succeeded in describing Germany's division without other tear-jerking or too risky ideas.

He recalled that the division of Germany was a "fact of established power relations" while noting, with reference to Thomas Aquinas, that justice was not merely a matter of power.

Justice, he said, forms the basis of my aim to what is my duty even though the

Revolt in East

On 17 June 1953 there was a popular uprising in East Berlin and more than 250 East German towns against the government and its policies.

According to East German figures, there were 21 deaths and 187 people injured. Western estimates are that at least 200 demonstrators and 100 policemen died. There must have been thousands injured.

The uprising was triggered by a 10-per-cent increase in work norms required at state-owned factories.

The day before, building workers at Stalinallee in East Berlin spontaneously drowned tanks and marched on the seat of government.

Ten thousand people demanded in a demonstration for GDR Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl and party leader Walter Ulbricht to address them.

On 17 June workers at nearly all factories in East Berlin went on strike and 12,000 steelworkers from Hennigsdorf, 27km away, marched into the city.

Sector border posts were torn down, red flags shredded, party propaganda board and newspaper kiosks and party offices demolished.

Similar demonstrations occurred at other industrial centres. There were increasingly vociferous demands for the government to resign and free elections to be held.

Armed police and Russian troops backed by tanks crushed the uprising. (Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 15 June 1985)

Blunt speaking about a divided nation

power someone else may hold prevents it from prevailing.

This is a Christian line of argument that must be heeded by those who all too readily confuse forgoing justice with peaceful behaviour and fulfilling other people's claims with justice.

In describing the division of Germany as a whole Herr Leber also went into the conditions of freedom in western Germany.

He sees ties with the United States as a prerequisite for survival in freedom. Was his speaking with the personal

Individual moves by expellee officials and abstract articles published in the expellees' weekly, *Der Schlesier*, are overrated by our eastern neighbours.

They will continue to be overrated for as long as the authorities fail to dissociate themselves and to state clearly where Bonn foreign policy stands on relations with the East.

According to Basic Law, the 1949 Bonn constitution, the Chancellor lays down overall policy guidelines.

It is striking and unusual for Foreign Minister Genscher to say the President's Office, and not the Chancellor's Office, has most clearly and convincingly paved the way for Ostpolitik in the years ahead.

Orders cannot be moved, but they must one day become easier to cross, and that must be a foremost policy objective.

It will be a protracted process, and one that can only take effect on the basis of confidence-building (or reducing lack of confidence).

That was why the President said this need for reconciliation and understanding must take preference over the legal claim to one's old home.

"Our old home," he said, "has now become home for others too."

In other words, the burden of the division of Germany and Europe can only be surmounted within a continental framework.

Priority must be given to individual freedom and, as Herr von Weizsäcker put it with reference to Berlin: "The German Question will be open for as long as the Brandenburg Gate remains closed." Unity in return for freedom would be a retrograde step.

This applies both to intra-German ties and to divided Europe as a whole.

So charity on the desire for understanding and reconciliation of German neighbours to the east "that it simply isn't enough, if peace is to be preserved, for everything to stay just as it has been in Europe for 40 years."

This assessment of the situation testifies to a humane and Christian "revisionism" respecting borders but preserving lack of freedom, intolerance and inhumanity.

Chancellor Kohl would do well to echo this sentiment in his speech to the Silesian conference in Hannover.

Even though there are two German states, people in the GDR remain Germans just like us.

Even though Communism has arbitrarily divided continental Europe Poles, Rumanians, Hungarians, Czechs, Bulgarians and Russians remain Europeans just like the French, Germans or Belgians.

Hermann Dexheimer

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 15 June 1985)

Kohl addresses Silesian exiles

There were a number of exaggerations and displays of tactlessness on the eve of the Silesian conference in Hannover that Chancellor Kohl could have taken as pretexts for not attending.

He chose to ignore such advice and faced the touchy atmosphere of the gathering, and he deserves respect for the courage of his convictions.

The Chancellor well knew he was not going to echo the views or sentiments of a number of expellee officials and others who will never learn.

His address to the conference was not memorable in the sense that it solved conflict, contained anything new or conveyed existing ideas in a striking manner.

But it did demonstrate readiness to confer with the expellees, a large and significant section of the German population, without descending to the level of angling for the votes of political extremists (which was what some expected him to do).

The uneasy atmosphere at the conference, where he was barracked and will have read provocative banners, was bound to make its mark.

It will have played a part in ensuring that the Chancellor's speech lacked the note of understanding that could have been sounded to expellees, who for the most part are moderate and have no illusions, even though it was uncompromising on issues.

The Chancellor could unquestionably have referred more clearly to previous German injustice meted out to millions of people before mentioning the expulsion of Germans from the East.

But the legal situation is complicated — just as the Chancellor said. That is why it is unfair to criticise what he had to say, regardless how one might feel politically about the treaties on which the situation is based.

Herr Kohl avoided fulfilling the expectations of expellee politicians who hoped Ostpolitik might undergo change after the CDU had taken over from the SPD at the helm of the Bonn coalition.

He said that the Federal Republic and Poland had no territorial claims on each other and would not be making any in future, which was strictly in accordance with the treaty position.

Eastern European criticism of the Chancellor's speech has been attributed by Minister of State Schäuble of the Chancellor's Office to a Soviet desire to shift the legal basis of the German situation.

Herr Kohl must be congratulated for having stood by his principles in view of these ambitions too.

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 19 June 1985)

Continued from page 1

again, but they aren't going to free hostages. Iranian guilt or complicity as a string-puller in the new state terrorism cannot be proved, or at least not sufficiently to warrant approval of massive retaliation by a civilised nation.

The giant is helpless again, and partly because a democratic society attaches greater importance to the lives of its citizens than to cold calculations of *raison d'état*.

In the duel with barbarity this is the Western world's greatest weakness! Let us be consoled by the thought that it is also its greatest strength.

Josef Joffe

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 19 June 1985)

Foreign Office minister dies at 63



Alois Mertens... didn't shirk laqueus.
(Photo: Sven Simon)

Some will remember with pleasure a battle of words between Alois Mertens and Social Democrat Horst Ehmke in Princeton; both spoke English.

Mertens had a special relationship with language. There was probably no one to equal him in the present Bonn government for linguistic training.

At times Bonn today seems to feel it can afford to neglect precision of vocabulary and arguments. Not so Mertens; he

was a great believer in clarity of concept.

He dealt clearly and at length, often in dogmatic detail, with concepts such as "security partnership."

Clarifying woolly concepts was a task he relished, and not just with scholarly mastery. He knew clear ideas were needed to guide political activities and achieve political effect.

He was no less keen in his championing of German interests, even when the going grew rough. In connection with Bitburg he even succeeded in asking New York Jews to appreciate the German position.

Even on occasions when he was bound to be considered a party-political adversary he never, despite his fiery temperament, made enemies.

He was an honest and generous man and not the kind to make enemies.

Just as he simply saw himself as a German patriot, so he was a faithful son of the church. As a Rhinelander he was a Catholic, but a liberal one, and given to simple piety without theological complications.

A few weeks ago in Mexico the archbishop referred in his sermon to Santa Maria de Guadalupe to Alexander von Humboldt and Alois Mertens — who was one of the congregation.

Herr Mertens may have been pleased to be mentioned, but his friends knew that he trusted in the Lord and saw himself as simply one of tens of thousands of the faithful.

He was not a man given to accumulating personal power. He lacked the steady ambition needed to build up a body of supporters.

Like other Ministers of State and

Continued on page 6

Alois Mertens, Minister of State at the Bonn Foreign Office, who has died after a heart attack aged 63, was never a man to take it easy.

He repeatedly plunged into the rough and tumble of political disputes and was not given, as a keen parliamentarian, to shirking issues.

Yet he was most upset when his constituency, Bitburg, came under critical scrutiny in connection with President Reagan's visit to its war cemetery.

He was proud of the 67 per cent he polled there for the Christian Democrats. It was a success he felt he and the CDU owed partly to friendship with the Americans.

Bitburg US Air Force base is on the best of terms with local people.

Mertens was a former career diplomat who knew his Ostpolitik, of which he was a veteran. He was also well-versed in East-West ties and relations with the United States.

Hailing from the Moselle area, on the border with France, Belgium and Luxembourg, he was keenly aware of the need to maintain understanding with the French.

He had lately paid attention to Latin America. Only last March he went to Central America on a fact-finding mission to see for himself the situation there.

Staff who accompanied him were surprised when he recalled what he had learnt long ago as a student in Valladolid and held impromptu press-conferences in Spanish.

They already knew he could put his views across in fluent English and French and that he had learnt Russian and bore in mind the sense of Russian words in his theoretical considerations.

de 4 no 1550

The European Community is to cut the intervention price of cereals and rape by 1.8 per cent. Bonn's Farm Minister, Ignaz Kiechle, had vetoed the cut, but now the European Commission is going ahead with it on the grounds that the farm ministers had not decided on "new prices" when they met.

The German decision to veto a reduction in European Community cereal prices damages this country's credibility.

It will make it difficult for Chancellor Kohl to convince his European partners at the Milan summit this month that he is serious about Europe.

The cereal prices and the shrinking incomes of farmers were not the only issues on the agenda during the meeting between the European Community's farm ministers in Luxembourg.

The basic positions of German policy towards the Community were at stake. The veto on price increases for wheat, rape and rye has bid most of them farewell.

The show of strength by Bonn's minister of agriculture, Ignaz Kiechle, has uncovered many of the contradictions in which the Bonn government has been entangled during the past few months.

On the one hand, Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg has been calling for more budgetary discipline in Brussels and Chancellor Kohl has announced that he will be fighting arm-in-arm with the French president, Francois Mitterrand, to limit the controversial right to veto when they meet in Milan.

On the other hand, Farm Minister Kiechle, with his Chancellor's backing, has been applying the very instrument his chancellor would like to see abolished to protect vital German interests.

The decision to veto endangers the modest beginnings of the austerity course Bonn's finance minister has continuously demanded from the Community.

Admittedly, Kiechle's reasons for his

Continued from page 4

state secretaries he was not a key political figure even though he was a former diplomat. Foreign Minister Genscher cut too substantial a figure to allow him much leeway.

One wonders why Mertes wasn't found a job at the Chancellor's Office, where recent developments suggest his talents could have been put to good use.

He himself was certainly worried at times by the turn events were taking and had no compunction in saying so (while remaining strictly loyal to both the Chancellor and the Foreign Minister).

He was determined to take a clear view and arrive at a level-headed assessment of the position and interests of what remains of Germany. He was courageous and steadfast in resisting both verbal and material threats.

His keenest political desire, he wrote in an article for a NATO magazine, was to see the Germans stand firm and resist Soviet pressure.

Few equalled him in preaching love of peace as opposed to lack of principle, and tolerance as opposed to corruption.

Alois Mertes also had another quality that is arguably not rated so highly among politicians. Despite his almost Latin wit and forensic flexibility he was a good, kind-hearted person.

Robert Held

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 18 June 1985)

EUROPE

Cereal price veto gives Kohl credibility poser

net of desperation in Luxembourg may well have been honourable ones.

The incomes of German farmers fell steadily last year. The livelihood of many small farmers struggling to survive would have been threatened by large farm price cuts.

But is the veto the only way to safeguard the farmers' interests?

Kiechle must take the blame for the fact that his clumsy obstinacy during negotiations led him up a blind alley.

Such flailing diplomacy, however, is not the first time the Germans have stepped out of line in the Community. Kiechle's uncompromising inflexibility is only the latest of a whole series of European policy faux pas by Bonn, which date right back to the days in which former finance minister, Hans Apel (SPD), first coined the phrase "German paymaster" to describe Germany's role in the Community.

At the latest following Chancellor Kohl's insistence on high farm subsidies for German farmers during the Community summit in Fontainebleau a year ago Community partners realised that the days when Germany was the Community's blue-eyed boy were over.

In Milan, Kohl will have to allay suspicions that the German veto on lower cereal prices was motivated by the "vital interests" of the CDU and CSU in securing the votes of German farmers rather than by the vital interests of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Kiechle's veto has violated the spirit of the Treaty of Rome, which has so of-

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Thomas Guck

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 14 June 1985)

ten been invoked by the Germans in the past.

Worse still, the German move is likely to have far-reaching consequences.

If the 0.8 per cent difference in the price of cereals — this was all that separated Kiechle from the European Commission's compromise proposal — is reason enough for the Federal Republic of Germany to pull the intra-Community emergency brake and veto, how can other member states be denied the right to do the same in future, for example, the Greeks to protect their olive oil, the Italians to protect their tomatoes, or the Spaniards to protect their sardines?

The treaties of accession to the Community signed by Spain and Portugal on the same day as the German veto can only be meaningful if the Community's decision-making process is simplified.

If the Community of Twelve cannot find a way to return to majority voting, the Community will come to a disastrous standstill.

The signatures in Madrid and Lisbon will have then sealed a step backwards and not progress.

Kiechle's veto has destroyed the hopes of all those who were hoping that the Milan summit would lead to a step towards reform.

Hopes that the heads of state and government leaders in Milan would set

the course for a European Union has disappeared.

Perhaps one day history books will recall that a German government missed the opportunity for European unification at a time in which a president was in office in France who was determined to lead Europe towards that goal.

Bonn's veto in Luxembourg leaves the German policy towards the Community in a shambles.

Majority voting the big issue

Should European Council decisions be taken on a majority basis? Or should the present method of unanimous voting be retained?

That is the crucial question at the Community's summit in Milan.

Bonn would like to see majority voting. Majority voting was rejected in 1966 after pressure from de Gaulle.

The principle was broken for the first time in 1982 when the majority of 12 voted in favour of the German proposal to exchange the Deutschmark for the Deutsche Mark, which is the Community's legislative body, pushed through an important agricultural policy decision against the opposition of the British representatives.

Many hoped this would automatically lead to a change in the system of voting. This has not been the case.

In cases where majority decisions are made (45 out of 63 votes are necessary), the four largest member states — Germany, France, the Netherlands and Belgium — have five votes each. The Netherlands, Belgium and Greece have five, Denmark and Ireland three, and Luxembourg two.

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 13 June 1985)

Hurdles to true common market listed

from harmonising provisions on seed growing and breeding animals, livestock diseases and plant disease controls to a standardisation of laws on pharmaceutical products, building (which has up to now been within the jurisdiction of individual states in Germany) and fire prevention (for example, in hotels).

Another prerequisite for the free and uncontrolled movement of goods is a harmonisation of the very different rates of value added tax and consumer tax on tobacco, alcoholic beverages, petrol diesel oil, heating oil, coffee and tea currently existing in individual Community countries.

After taking a look at the experiences gathered in the USA on the varying rates of taxation in 50 states, the Commission feels that a divergence of up to 2.5 per cent above or below the standard rates recommended for the Community would be acceptable.

The normal rate of VAT in the Federal Republic of Germany is currently 14 per cent, whereas it is much higher in most other Community countries.

A rate of 25 per cent, for example, is levied on certain products in Belgium, 33.3 per cent in France, and even 38 per cent in Italy, Denmark and Ireland

would have to completely change their taxation systems.

The systems of public supervision of banks and insurance companies would also have to be fundamentally changed if all member states if the free "service market" is also to become reality by 1992.

In this sector, plans include the unrestricted competition between companies and heavy goods vehicles companies throughout the Community, which presupposes an alignment of national MOT stipulations.

Air traffic price controls are also to be dropped as well as restrictions on maritime and inland waterway shipping.

The harmonisation of the "media laws" (satellite TV — again up to now matter for individual states in Germany), copyright and other fields will also be essential in the services sector.

The total opening-up of intra-Community borders requires stricter controls on its external borders, said Commissioner Lord Cockfield.

If the relatively free border traffic between the Federal Republic of Germany (and Italy) and Switzerland and Austria (non-EEC states) is to be maintained, the latter countries will have to adopt many of the future EC provisions.

The same applies to Denmark's Scandinavian neighbours, Sweden, Norway and Finland.

Lord Cockfield was asked about the prospects of success for such far-reaching changes.

"I sometimes wish", he replied, "that governments had visions and not only fears."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 18 June 1985)

MONEY

East Berlin ambivalence as East Germans clamour for western currency

Petra was due to meet Detlef at 3 p.m. by the judges' stand at the shooting track in Karlshorst, East Berlin. She was an East German girl working in a chemical factory. He was a West German businessman. Money — 20,000 marks — was to change hands.

It was nothing more glamorous than a black market deal, but Detlef didn't turn up. Instead Petra was picked up by the East German police.

Petra's mistake was to try and make a huge and blatant deal at a rate of 4.5 East marks to 1 Deutschemerk in the reach of East Germany's currency relations.

West money, which usually means the Deutschemerk, may only be exchanged through the State bank at a rate of 1:1.

However, the East Berlin government has an ambivalent attitude and East Germans can exchange the Deutsche Mark for the East German mark without questions for a while, pushed through an important agricultural policy decision against the opposition of the British representatives.

This serves as a social outlet: it is the only way many people can get consumer goods. It is also a way East Germans can obtain valuable Western currency.

East-West currency deals of this kind are usually for less dramatic. Called *umtausch*, or rounding the rouble, in East German slang, they usually involve friends and relatives from West Germany.

The going rate between friends is 1 to 4 for East German marks for one Western DM. Hard bargains have been given at 1 to 6.

Both sides benefit. Visitors from the West can live like kings in East German shops and restaurants, while East Germans get Western cash.

No-one asks them how they got their money. The GDR State Bank will readily exchange it for the vouchers needed to buy goods at Intershop.

Intershop is a group of state-owned stores where Western goods not otherwise available in the GDR can be bought.

Originally intended for use by West visitors only, they are now an established feature of GDR economic policy.

SONNTAGSBLATT

competition nor can the individual who earns it as pay, salary or pension lay definite claim to goods in return...

"In this respect the GDR mark is in much the same position as GDR citizens: it isn't sovereign. Its radius of action is subject to administrative restrictions."

Yet the GDR State Bank in East Berlin does not have the currency strictly under control, as evidenced by diplomats in East Berlin who drive over to the West and buy it with bundles of West German banknotes.

At Zoo Station in West Berlin they change bundles of West German notes for even larger bundles of GDR currency: four and a half times as much in nominal value.

On request they are shepherded into a separate office to ensure discretion, but they don't in fact run much of a risk.

In the West the transaction is legal, and their diplomatic status protects them from inspection by GDR border guards.

It is illegal to import East German currency into the GDR, but diplomats can cross the Berlin Wall without let or hindrance.

Their only problem is that the GDR Foreign Ministry may get wind of a particularly flourishing trade in black market currency and complain discreetly to their home governments. Many promising diplomatic careers have ended under a cloud of this way.

Many diplomats use GDR currency imported illegally (as the GDR sees it) to live in luxury in the East, where high subsidies and low wages keep basic foodstuffs and services much lower in price than in the West.

Paid for in black market money they are even cheaper. Prices in GDR restaurants are only half what they are in the West, if that. Public transport costs barely a tenth of what it does in the West.

The purchasing power of the GDR mark, West Berlin economists say, is DM1.07 on aggregate.

Even the fact that consumer durables are five times as expensive as in the West does not change the fact that the GDR mark buys more.

Diplomats in East Berlin use black market money to pay GDR workmen to redecorate their apartments. Others run up telephone bills equivalent to a month's salary.

Neither faces up to international

Others invest in cut-price air travel, such as a return ticket to Budapest for the equivalent of DM70, or splash out on cut-price groceries.

Prime beef costs between DM10 and DM17 per kilo in the GDR. At the black market rate that is DM4 at most. The difference is set aside for a rainy day back home.

Banks in West Berlin that do a flourishing trade in East-West currency transactions buy some of their GDR currency — an estimated annual turnover of DM250m-DM300m — from GDR pensioners.

They defy bans and threats of punishment, taking East German currency with them when they visit the West and selling it at an exchange rate of 5 to 1 (five East German marks for one West German mark).

But a substantial chunk of the GDR currency sold in the West comes from East Bloc state banks that use GDR currency they hold to "round the rouble," trading it for hard currency in Zurich or Vienna.

Even East Berlin was at one stage involved in black market dealings in its own currency, as a tale told by a West Berlin customs flying squad officer suggests.

In the late 1970s, he says, he checked a GDR citizen in the S-Bahn, or suburban electric railway, and found he had 750,000 East German marks in his suitcase.

"He told me he was going to change it into West German currency and buy spare parts for his state-run company in Leipzig," the officer says. "We let him go ahead. There's no law against it in the West."

Dieter Stöcker

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 23 June 1985)

Continued from page 2

view Gorbachev and his development strategy in different ways.

Most European governments support the attempt to reform the Soviet system, since they feel that this will lead to more rational self-restraint by this superpower.

The present American leadership, however, has indicated that a long-term economic upswing by the Soviet Union would not be in the American interest, as this would strengthen its eastern rival.

This explains why many advisers and officials in Reagan's administration regard Gorbachev as "America's most powerful opponent for a long time."

Reagan's behaviour could help him fulfil this role.

Christian Schmidt-Häuer

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 14 June 1985)

220,000 suppliers of 75,000 products 'made in Germany'

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■ TECHNOLOGY

Tempered steel tape snapped with a snap — high-tech ceramics shows its paces

The Fine Ceramics Fair held in the Japanese city of Nagoya in March began with a spectacular high-tech publicity stunt.

Five high-ranking public officials ceremoniously cut through a tape of tempered steel with a pair of scissors as if the tape were made of paper.

The baffling cut in front of the disbelieving guests was not made by an ordinary pair of scissors but by a specially produced pair made of high-tech ceramics.

The number of exhibitors at this fair underlined the importance attached to the development of new ceramic materials for high-technology products.

No fewer than 150 exhibitors, most of them Japanese, attracted more than 230,000 visitors in only four days. Only 100,000 people visited the last fair two years ago.

Over 2,000 Japanese scientists and engineers are currently working on the development of new ceramics-based materials.

A book dealing with this technology of the future and written by a professor from the University of Tokyo has been sensationally successful: 75,000 copies were sold within a year.

A survey conducted among the executives of 100 major Japanese businesses to discover which, in their opinion, were the most significant technological innovations since 1973, the year of the oil crisis, showed high-tech ceramics in fifth place — behind microchips, biotechnology, glass fibres and industrial robots.

However, sceptics are already warning against expecting too much from the "test-tube" materials.

As opposed to gene technology, which is unlikely to be commercially exploitable until the end of this century, the age of ceramics is well under way.

A research programme on "Ceramic Components for Vehicle Gas Turbines" was initiated by Bonn in 1974 and received about DM53 million in public funds in 1983.

This was a case of the Germans catching up with the Americans, who had started a similar project two years previously (led by the Ford and Westinghouse companies).

The gas turbine became an increasingly meaningful alternative following the show of strength by the Arab sheiks, since it can be run on cheaper fuels.

In contrast to the Americans and Germans the Japanese initially concentrated their efforts on developing ceramic components for the traditional reciprocating piston engine.

A few years ago Japanese designers already presented an engine made of ceramic parts. It will take some time, however, before such an engine can — if at all — be mass produced.

The specific use of ceramic materials to achieve greater engine performance and improve fuel economy makes more economic sense.

The better insulation of warmth in comparison with metallic materials leads to greater efficiency and less pollution.

Finally, there is another good reason for using the new material: it is light and will therefore cut fuel costs.

The use of ceramics also has advan-

DIE ZEIT

tages in terms of the raw materials supply situation.

There is an almost unlimited supply of its base materials, aluminium oxide, zirconium oxide, silicon carbide and silicon nitride — to mention only the main product families. In addition, these materials are less expensive than the metallic alloys generally used.

The powdery basic material is initially pressed in a hot or cold state or shaped in some other way and then sintered (baked) at temperatures of between 1,400 and 2,100 degrees centigrade.

As Edgar Lutz, head of the firm Hoechst CeramTec explained, "it's taking some time for people to realise that this is a technology which can solve many of the problems facing mankind."

In a tone of unmistakable impatience, Lutz outlined the numerous fields in which the tailor-made materials can be applied.

Ever since his firm, which up until the beginning of this year was called Rosenthal Technik, became a subsidiary of the giant Hoechst chemicals group his objectives in this field have been more ambitious.

The new acquisitions made it clear right from the start that they intend leaving their major rivals in this field, Bayer and BASF, way behind.

Their first move in this direction was to more than double CeramTec's share capital, thus triggering the investments needed.

Most of the DM44 million in research money this year has been channelled into the research laboratory of Hoechst's parent works near Frankfurt.

Up until CeramTec was sold Philipp Rosenthal had only invested DM120 million in his gold-hungry subsidiary.

The fact that apart from Hoechst only the Flick-owned firm Feldmühle plays an internationally significant role in the ceramics business shows just how thin the industrial basis is for this new technology in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Feldmühle, Germany's major paper

producer, already set up an independent ceramics section at the beginning of the 1950s and today specialises in the production of cutting tools and bone implants on the basis of oxide ceramics.

After taking over the "Ceranox" field of production of the Annawerk Keramische Betriebe GmbH in Rödental Feldmühle expanded its activities to include the non-oxide materials, silicon carbide and silicon nitride.

Via a Düsseldorf-based joint venture Feldmühle also collaborates with the whizz kid of the Japanese ceramics business, Kyocera.

Via a further joint venture in Plochingen Feldmühle's Japanese partner markets electronic circuits in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

The Kyocera company, which began as a modest supplier of ceramic components for television sets, has recently become the undisputed superstar of Japanese industry.

The company, which is based in the old imperial city of Kyoto, has an almost 70 per cent share of the world market in the field of highly-specialised ceramic casings for microchips.

The respected economics magazine *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* put Kyocera on top of a list of the most financially successful Japanese companies.

Kyocera's ambitious thrust into the field of high-technology ceramics fits in with the overall strategy of Japanese industry, which — as is always the case when great national effort is needed — is carefully coordinated by the Ministry for International Trade and Industry (MITI).

Günter Petzow, professor at the Max Planck Institute for Metal Research in Stuttgart and head of its Powder Metallurgy Department has been keeping an eye on Japanese activities for some time: "The Japanese regard the field of high-technology ceramics as an area in which they want to beat the Americans at all costs."

Their activities hint Petzow out on this point. No less than 170 firms joined forces in the Japan Fine Ceramics Association three years ago; only 35 of them actually began in the ceramics business: 29 came from the chemicals sector, 25 from the electronics branch, 22 from the steel and metal industry and 18 from mechanical engineering.

Although the Far Eastern high-tech strategists still lack all-round know-how, the Japanese are way ahead of the rest in individual product fields where comes to enabling a smooth transition from the developmental phase to mass production.

Two years ago Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and its traditional rival Kawasaki-Harima Heavy Industries began to produce turbo-chargers in series.

In the field of gas turbines, which have only been developed in Japan since 1978, the Japanese have been clearing the gap faster than expected.

A feasibility study is scheduled for completion in autumn and it is hoped that parliament will approve of an implementation of the project in spring next year.

Japanese industry would like to see series production begin in the mid-eighties.

The Federal Republic of Germany can still claim to have a lead in the gas turbine field. However, no-one is really willing to venture into large-scale production. The German car industry is waiting for money from the Bonn research-ministry budget to solve existing production problems and Bonn feels that the financially powerful groups in industry should take the initiative.

Experts, on the other hand, claim that turbine technology, which is unlikely to yield profits for Daimler-Benz or Volkswagen before the year 2000, could also provide impetus for medium-sized firms.

Manfred Böhmer, ceramics expert at the DFVLR Institute for Materials Research in Cologne, warns: "If we delay things any longer we will run the risk of losing our lead."

Professor Petzow from the Max Planck Institute shares Böhmer's concern: "The cake is not infinitely big and whoever wants to have a slice of it one day must act now."

The situation in the field of the latest low-emission system for vehicles shows how damaging it can be to miss the technology boat. Foreign suppliers have a clear monopoly position with regard to the supply of the system's ceramic container and its platinum-alloy layer (supplied by Degussa company in Germany).

The US Corning Glass company has strengthened its market position by setting up a new factory near Kaiserslautern.

Its biggest rival, the Japanese firm NGK Insulators, will be trying to corner the EC market from a production plant it plans to build in Brussels.

Yet again, Baden-Württemberg's long-sighted state premier, Lothar Späth, was the first to respond to the ceramics challenge.

Always on the look-out for new and promising technologies he will be providing DM6 million to set up a centre for ceramics research at the Max Planck Institute for Metal Research in Stuttgart.

In addition, an institute with several professors has been set up in Karlsruhe to specifically deal with the application of modern ceramic materials in the field of mechanical engineering.

It is hoped that this institute will move one of the major stumbling blocks preventing a broadly-based breakthrough by ceramics: the scepticism of the design engineers with regard to the use of tough ceramics and the lack of understanding on the part of the ceramics experts for the problems of mechanical engineers used to working with metallic tools.

Hans Otto Eglow
(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 7 June 1985)

SPACE RESEARCH

PS1 and PS2 limber up for German-led mission

WELT SONNTAG

D-1, the first German-led space research mission, is due to take off from Cape Canaveral in October. The crew of the Spacelab, a European capsule made in Bremen, have been in training since last autumn.

With an Sonntag watched the crew of D-1, short for Deutschland-1, as they prepared for their seven-day space mission.

A countdown is already under way at the DFVLR aerospace research establishment in Porz-Wahn, near Cologne. A no-nonsense board at the gate proclaims: 134 Days to Go.

The janitor changes the number daily. It starts at the scheduled take-off day, 14 October. The DFVLR is a Bonn government agency answerable to Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber, CDU.

D-1 will be the first space research mission of which the Federal Republic of Germany is in charge, but Spacelab will as usual be put into orbit by Nasa.

It will also be the first time two German astronauts have been spaceborne at the same time. They will be:

Reinhard Furrer, 44, who until 1983 was a physics lecturer at the Free University in Berlin,

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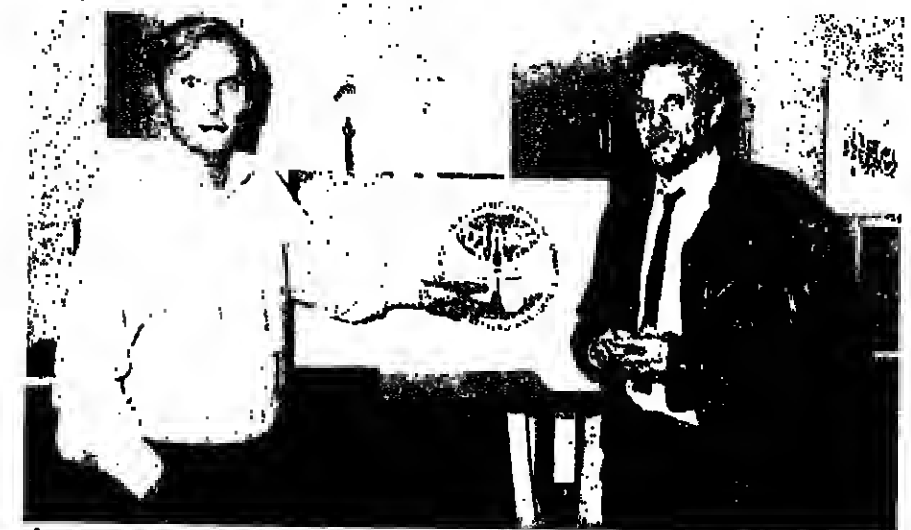
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Astronauts Ernst Messerschmid (left) and Reinhard Furrer... rail on October.

(Photo: Werek)

Commander Harrisfield and pilot Nagel will be in charge of the space shuttle's flight operations.

The scientific part of the mission will be supervised by GSOC, or German Space Operations Centre, in Oberpfaffenhofen, Munich, where Ulf Merbold, 43, will be CIC, or crew interface coordinator.

Last year Merbold, Germany's first astronaut, spent 11 days in space.

Flight operations will be supervised by Nasa ground control in Houston, Texas.

The mission will cost DM400m, including a DM162m fee paid to Nasa for use of the space shuttle. The bill will be paid by Herr Riesenhuber's Ministry.

The D-1's crew have undergone training in America and Europe since last autumn. Furrer, Messerschmid, Ockels, Dunbar, Bluford and Merbold (as a substitute if one of the three Europeans is unfit to fly) have done most of their training in Cologne.

While the DFVLR in Porz-Wahn maintains constant radio contact with GSOC in Munich (training is controlled by an office full of computer hardware and monitor screens).

This office, D8 in 43 building, is where DFVLR operations manager Hans-Gerhard Neuhäuser and his team supervise simulation of the seven-day mission.

Through a window in the office wall you can look into a hall where a life-size model of Spacelab, 7m long and 4.06m in diameter, is in position.

The door to the left of the window leads into an exact replica of the crew's quarters during the mission.

Six steps up an aluminium ladder take the crew up to the circular hatch 1.3m in diameter through which they must clamber in and out of Spacelab.

A mission manual lies open at Day 2, 22.10 hours, on the office desk. Scientists and astronauts refer to this as the timeline.

On the right, at Spacelab's workbench, MS3 Bluford is operating a camera as planned for 22.10 hours on Day 2 of the mission.

His task is to photograph the root growth of watercress in zero gravity. Every movement is scripted.

"ASA 400, battery check (red light)," the manual reads. Bluford reports no response.

"There can't be," Neuhäuser explains. "We have glued tape between the button batteries of the camera, so there is no current."

"We have deliberately included errors of this kind in the simulation programme because a battery can fail during the real mission."

"The astronauts' job will be to locate faults and repair them, with back-up from GSOC if need be."

Bluford eventually locates the offending piece of sticky tape and notifies Oberpfaffenhofen.

Then the crew change shift and Bonnie Dunbar and Ulf Merbold take over at the controls of the simulator. Suddenly there is a loud buzz indicating a fault.

Merbold, standing on the left at the central control desk, keys in instructions and gazes at the monitor screen. The buzzing stops; the fault has been rectified.

Bonnie Dunbar is leafing through the scenario ticking items one by one with a blue pencil with a big red rubber at its blunt end.

Merbold leaves Spacelab at 13.00 hours for a snack, returning shortly afterwards with a cheese and sausage sandwich each for himself and Ms Dunbar and a bottle of lemonade.

The two specialists take five, then it's back to work.

There is another buzz and a red line, "WPP FAIL PUMP 2," flashes on the screen, indicating the (simulated) breakdown of a pump that helps to keep the laboratory cool.

All but two of the D-1 mission's experiments deal with zero gravity. There are 72 in all, and the two deal with timepiece synchronisation.

The remainder are concerned — in equal proportions — with materials research, medical research and biotechnology, and process engineering.

Experiments have been commissioned by nearly all German universities, by research facilities and industrial users. Some experiments have been devised elsewhere in Europe and in the United States.

All are computer-simulated in Cologne — all, that is, except those that are carried out on a test sledge or involve physical reactions.

The rotating dome experiment, for instance, involves a dome about 50cm in diameter with coloured dots the astronaut must keep an eye on.

At normal, terrestrial gravity this is enough to make you lose your sense of balance.

At zero gravity the astronauts have to hold on to a bit with their teeth while their eyes transfer the rotation to their sense of balance, making muscles ache and the body bend in the opposite direction to that of the dome.

Reactions are measured by means of a luminous tape fixed to the body and special contact lenses featuring a star pattern.

"I am proud of our astronauts," says Herr Riesenhuber. "They are taking part in the adventure that is space."

A payload specialist on board the space shuttle *Discovery's* latest mission, Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz al Saud, 28, is a nephew of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

He faces a special problem. Which way is he to turn to pray towards Mecca? Where is Allah in outer space?

Hans Jürgen Trocha

(Welt am Sonntag, Bonn, 2 June 1985)

■ THE CINEMA

Experimental workshop pays penalty for not wanting to be a festival

This year's Experimental Film Workshop in Osnabrück turned out to be a disappointment for its organisers.

Many people feel that experimental films are not proper cinematography anyway. This partly explains the lack of interest shown by West German journalists in the workshop event.

However, it is hard to believe that even those who do not support the general hierarchy within the cinematic genre (fiction, documentaries, experimental films) expected this event to attract the kind of attention afforded the more conventional film festivals in Cannes, Berlin and Hof.

Although the workshop itself will not suffer as a result of this lack of publicity the missing limelight is also a missed opportunity for its cause.

The meeting could have helped revise the popular misconception that the feature film is cinema per se.

This ignores the fact that a great deal of creative spirit emanates from the periphery of popular cinema. The experimental film-makers are the trial-and-error adventurers behind the scenes.

Helmut Herbst presented a retrospective of experimental films during the sixties, including films by Wim Wenders and Adolf Winkelmann.

This helped underline the fact that the conventional feature film is also fictional in that it induces the cinemagoer to identify with the events on the screen instead of stimulating personal reflection and hence involvement.

The cinemagoing experience culminates in the fascination of being able to move acoustically and visually in a dimension which seems "natural" and "personally perceived" but in fact is not.

Telling a story should not be a film's sole function and the dominant literary codification of the feature film often behaves in an ignorant (and parasitic) manner in this respect.

Claiming to embody "true cinema", it functionalises the film as a means towards an end, as a medium of a type of fascination which is fundamentally that of novel-reading.

Experimentation, however, is not taken for granted in the experimental film genre.

A film scene claims to be "objective" when, for example, the hero of the story is seen in the tableau of a situation. Whenever the "subjective" view is depicted, i.e. the situation as seen through the protagonist's eyes, the audience will more or less recognise the spot where he is "objectively located".

Both of these images could be merged in a kind of double exposure of the film material, thus unveiling the illusion of the subjective.

We would then have a picture which, regardless of the story being told, directly portrays something which is secretive (yet fundamental), namely the difference between what can be seen and what a person actually sees.

This approach is both analytical and structuralistic; the afore-mentioned doubling visual dramaturgy is almost a dictate of experimental film creations.

The directly perceptible aesthetic fascination of this visual experience can more than equal the oozing warmth of many of the new cinema-screen hits.

In my opinion, *S/N* by Christoph Janetzko was the most aesthetic film

Frankfurter Rundschau

shown during this year's Osnabrück workshop.

The film strikes an astounding balance between analysis and daydream.

The title stands for the topographic term for the opposing camera positions for each camera movement, says Janetzko. What this basically means is a wide-range and a narrow-range film shot.

Bit by bit something "real" emerges out of the black-and-white of a graphic landscape: the naturalist, "correct picture" of a country house in colour.

In the off-camera state saxophone music seems to have no other function than to provide background music.

It is only at the end of this 15-minute film that the observer realises what he has been witnessing: the gradual composition of a landscape in front of the inner eye of the saxophone player, in which he finally sees himself playing.

The idea that someone can be the protagonist in a scene he himself has mentally conjured up is the most fascinating aspect of this film, which is perhaps in its essence a small feature film.

Janetzko also received the German Critics' Prize for the best experimental film of the year (together with Klaus Telscher's *Aus der Welt*).

Janetzko's *S/N* is an outstanding production in the methodological tradition of the structural experimental film, an

aesthetic discourse on the relationship between means and ends.

The strength of the experimental film lies in its ability to articulate the grammar of seeing and hearing (much more precisely than conventional cinema).

The meeting in Osnabrück showed how rare such precision is (as a kind of double strategy) as well as how quickly it can slip into the arbitrary.

Continental Breakfast by Matthias Müller is a splendid example of a successful balance between two discourses.

The film deals with a young couple which has shut itself off from the outside world and is stuck in the treadmill of everyday existence.

The pictures shown, snapshots of the getting up, having a shave, making breakfast etc. evoke a stifling atmosphere.

The fact that they are oppressing one another is the ironic twist in the film.

The surprising aspect in this film is that it starts telling a different story about half way through.

The couple is seen sitting at the breakfast table in an almost picture-postcard presentation of two people living together in harmony.

Now, it is the outside world (via the newspaper) which boycotts this picture of harmony with the politics of the dangers of war.

An American newscaster announces "There is no danger" and the word "Witzlos" (futile) can be seen above aerial photographs of bombed cities.

The operative word is angst, fear of war and fear of the home-made war of broken relationships.

A vain hunt for the new taboos

RHEINISCHE POST

real modern concept of what taboo actually encompasses.

The guests in Arnoldshain agreed that taboo in its original sense no longer exists.

The primitive hunter who inadvertently killed a taboo animal died himself after becoming aware of what he had done.

It goes without saying that nobody died in Arnoldshain. Confrontation with the kind of violent sexuality presented by Oshima or Pasolini hardly shocked anybody.

Many were, of course, disturbed, filled with consternation and disgusted at what they have seen on the screen, although most of them realised that a great deal is merely "as-if".

Everyone seemed to have a different and generally vague idea of what the word taboo means.

The reaction to Pasolini's *Salo*, the director's relentless rejection of western civilisation, proved the point only too well.

One person in the audience said he could not stand to see the weak suffer,

A British film, shown as part of the main programme's international section, presenting experimental films from Australia, France, England, Japan, Holland and Austria as well as an exhibition of the works of Len Lye from New Zealand, left a similarly intense impression. Another *Window* by George Sauter shows a man gazing out of a window and lost in memories of his childhood as he sees children playing in the courtyard outside.

The children do not notice the man's silent despair.

This is a film about getting older, the fear of one's own past and the fact that the man in the window needs the mental and physical distance from his experiences to love them and suffer because of them.

Too many films in Osnabrück, however, showed an often arbitrary use of film-making tools. As Jean-Luc Godard once pointed out, it is no use trying to write about something if you don't know how to hold the pen.

The workshop in Osnabrück paid the price for not wanting to be a festival, by not allowing its own jurors to distinguish more clearly between the chaff from the wheat.

Three-hundred German films, videos, performances, restrospectives and seminars made it difficult to enjoy all aspects of the meeting. More films should have been rejected.

Just because someone has a camera but not the money or know-how to tell "good story" within the conventional film-making framework does not mean that he is an experimental film-maker.

It would be a shame if the annual meeting in Osnabrück were to degenerate into a "spontaneous film festival" just because its organisers have scruples about imposing stricter selection standards.

Michael Kötter

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 15 June 1985)

whereas another person said he had seen worse during the war.

One woman found the film repulsive because of its anti-women character. Other women felt annoyed by the film as they were unable to identify with the protagonists.

Taboo is something that prompts the feeling of aversion or distaste, although there would not appear to be any built-in taboos.

Or are there? Not only films with a distasteful merit were presented in Arnoldshain but also the "rejects".

Lieslote Bestgen, representative of the FSK (Voluntary Self-Control of the Film Industry), brought them along to test the audience's reaction.

The pornography clips showed heavily breathing blondes and whiplashed ladies which had been cut out of the original film.

Most of the audience found these clips no more than amusing.

The second roll of film contained excerpts from the category of "horror" and many people left the room as knives, needles and circular saws began to be used for purposes which were obviously rather than those for which they were originally intended.

Of course, many people realised that this was merely the work of clever tricksters.

Perhaps the most generally accepted definition of taboo is the violation of the integrity of the human body.

Violence just for the sake of violence should not be shown in the cinema. Nobody contradicted the FSK representative here.

Paul Behrens

(Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 13 June 1985)

■ THE ARTS

Far East flavour at Berlin festival of culture

Horizons '85, the third and most comprehensive Berlin festival of international culture, features the Far East.

Festival manager Ulrich Eckhardt says the Far East is important for the future of the world.

He is obviously talking in economic and political terms and not just referring to the arts.

An exhibition at the Academy of Arts entitled "I Will Eat Your Shadow" is a highlight of the festival season. The title is a threat uttered in a Korean play, and figures, puppets, costumes and scenery convey an insight into the world of Far Eastern drama.

It is an alien world for Europeans yet one that has exerted considerable influence on modern drama from Meyerhold and Vachangov to Brecht, the Living Theatre and Peter Brook.

Ought the exhibition organisers to have aimed at comprehensive coverage? That would probably have been to overstretch both themselves and their public.

The Academy exhibition was in fact organised by Thomas Leims, a Vienna University lecturer in Japanese and drama.

He decided in favour of examples selected to provide a didactical background to the other music and drama events on the festival programme.

And von Diepenbroek skillfully arranged exhibits geographically to represent China, Japan, Tibet, Java and Bali.

Far Eastern drama is not subdivided into genres such as straight theatre, opera, ballet and pantomime. It is a comprehensive whole and, unlike European drama, can look back on an unbroken tradition.

It is a tradition that can readily extend to the present day, with the result that Indonesian puppet theatre can feature puppets playing the role of Pandit or President Sukarno.

Drama in the Far East also often consists of ceremony, ritual and long-standing colour symbols, exemplified at the Academy of Arts by make-up books from the Japanese Kabuki theatre.

Red lines denote the hero, blue the doer and violet the demon.

At times theatre in the Far East can be described as collective psychotherapy. In Indonesia, for instance, there is a saintly figure resembling a dog wearing a crown, to whom prayers must be dedicated every five days.

Barong has to be placated at regular intervals, otherwise he will get up to mischief.

The custom is kept up in Berlin. After who knows what might happen if Barong is not placated? Bunches of white nasties are dedicated to him to be an as a sacrifice.

A Burmese puppet theatre scene featuring 32 marionettes is on show, followed by a tapestry illustrating an Indian epic in which Hanuman, the monkey, is seen tearing two of his adversaries apart.

A ritual dancing figure from Tibet is a skirt consisting of human bones. Were to start dancing it would surely rise to fear, respect and a "sacred" feeling.

Peking Opera costumes are particularly resplendent. A general wears a peacock's feathers yards long on either

side of his headgear, while the Empress is accompanied by two mandarins and four eunuchs — and the princess.

After China's "cultural revolution," the political purpose of which, if any, is so hard to grasp, the Peking Opera tradition was revived. A poem printed in the exhibition catalogue typifies it:

"Behold the Moon and flowers! However hard life is, in this flowing world we cry and laugh. Life goes on."

On the Chinese stage battle is waged with spellbinding acrobatics; in the Japanese Noh tradition fighting is indicated by stylised movements of a fan.

Yet the classic Japanese dance drama portrays a jealous woman as a frightening figure with tousled hair beneath which small devil's horns protrude.

Old masks used by the Bugaku theatre included a "drunken king of the barbarians," a frightening grinning figure on view in Berlin who can be sure to have sent a shudder down audiences' spines in his time.

The monkey frequently appears in Far Eastern drama, doubtless varying in significance. A play performed by the Shamsai province puppet theatre is entitled *The Monkey King Waves His Banana Fan Three Times*.

It is an adventurous pilgrimage with magic effects yet at the same time breathtakingly realistic. The puppets are manipulated using only three sticks, yet most expressively. The premiere gave great pleasure.

Theatre audiences were also delighted at the Freie Volkshöhle, where the Sichuan Opera, a counterpart to the Peking Opera, performed *The White Snake*, a play featuring song, dance and mime, and a selection from their repertoire.

A boat journey across a storm-tossed river is, as a matter of course, acted without a boat. Yet the way in which the actors lurch to and fro, threatening to go overboard, and punt the boat clear of obstacles is breathtaking.

It is hard to believe the speed at which they don a fresh mask from one second to the next.

A scene from the Sichuan Opera's repertoire entitled *Stopping A Horse* features a prisoner of war who needs a pass to return home and tricks a soldier into giving him one.

The actor who plays the prisoner of war's part uses gestures, mimicry and footwork of Charlie Chaplin. A Chinese variation on Chaplin is both an amusing oddity and a further instance of how far tradition can go without being untrue to itself.

The festival season includes the Treasures from the Forbidden City and Europe and the Chinese Emperors exhibitions.

Then there is a visit by the 400-year-old Kun Opera, also from China, and Ennosuke Ichikawa III's Kabuki company from Japan.

A festival of traditional music is dedicated to Korea. Far Eastern films are on show at the Arsenal cinema, while 25 authors from China, Indonesia, Japan and Korea have been invited to give readings.

Two of the four South Korean writers invited to take part in the Berlin festival were refused exit permits. One is presumed to have been imprisoned.

Jürgen Beckelmann

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 14 June 1985)



Rosenbaum's Alice im Männerland, played in Munich.

(Photo: Jens Funk)

Attempts to goad audiences into reacting with discrimination

At the Berlin drama festival director Peter Zadek advocated "highly political, propagandist, base and vulgar plays."

He was doubtless riled by the way in which theatre audiences in Germany seem to put up with anything. They are no longer stimulated by even the most striking experiments in stage presentation.

Thomas Petz of the Munich drama festival ought now to be able to judge what prospects a change of this kind might have.

He too was strongly in favour of being straightforwardly rebellious and organised the Munich festival with every expectation of clashes.

Conflict there may have been during the two-week Munich festival season, but it failed to make its presence felt further afield than the marquees in the Olympic park where plays were performed.

Yet there was no lack of explosive potential, with visiting companies including the Charabanc theatre company from Belfast and a Palestinian company, El Hakawati.

Their plays, illustrating the fighting in Ireland and the Middle East, signally

DIE WELT

THE WORLD

failed to lend political stimulus, arguably because of the language barrier.

The premiere of what was probably Rainer Werner Fassbinder's first stage play attracted advance publicity as a likely festival sensation, but prompted no more than insider interest.

Entitled *Tropfen auf heiße Steine*, it tells the tale of a fatal love affair between two men.

Bearing in mind how early in Fassbinder's career it must have been written, the play is striking in two respects.

It shows how skillfully he transformed accurate observation into stage dialogue and how, so early in his career, he arrived at a leitmotiv presaging his life and work.

A fresh Fassbinder play is to be performed annually at the Munich drama festival, with a Fassbinder award being made. The first award-winner was Dario Fo, for scenes from his *Misterio Buffo*.

Fo's combination of mime, grimace, presentation and propaganda, a mixture inconceivable in Germany, is enough on its own to merit a festival, effectively making his audience forget any deeper meaning it might have.

The Commedia dell'arte manner in which he puts Pope Boniface VIII in his place might well have made even Dante pale in comparison.

(Dante sent Boniface VIII to his lair as "Prince of the new Pharisees" back in 1303.)

Fo's Tiger Takt, often copied by other performers, amounted to behavioural research acted out in holy language and was accompanied by fearful roars that temporarily transformed the Olympic park into a zoo.

Fo's wife Frances Rame gave a much more political and less mime-oriented solo performance of her *Only Children*, Church and Kitchen. Her presentation resembled that of a photographic model, her delivery was in Blow-Up style.

As ill-luck would have it, she performed to an accompaniment of torrential rain hammering on the canvas of the marquee. It so disconcerted her that she felt God must surely be prejudiced against women.

Mechthild Grossmann, star of Pina Bausch's Wuppertal ballet company, had to abandon her first one-woman show of spellbindingly well-observed parody.

She too fell foul of the festival weather, which was so dreadful that the surroundings of the marquees were so waterlogged as to bear a striking resemblance to a building-site.

The restaurant tent was full of people steaming wet, with long bar queues and snacks eaten standing and set out on dustbin lids.

Yet hardly had the rains subsided but fire raged nearby and power cables were cut.

The fire brigade doused the properties, including 80 spotlights, that were to be used by the Mscunaima company from Brazil.

Let no-one say this year's Munich drama festival was lacking in impromptu drama.

Oddly enough, the fire brigade's performance was more convincing than a group project involving setting light to an aluminium and papier mache figure.

Continued on page 12

There has been a series of attacks by birds on humans over the past year or two. Among the victims have been hang glider pilots, joggers and even motorists.

So are birds getting their own back on man just like in Hitchcock's thriller *The Birds*? Or is there a natural explanation?

The attacks have inspired headlines such as: Eagle forces glider to make emergency landing; Falcon tears hang glider to ribbons; Jogger taken to hospital after buzzard blitz; Jackdaws assault woman; walker; Owl attacks forest hiker.

Are environmental toxins driving birds to go against nature? Or is it mankind that is no longer able to behave naturally in its natural environment?

The glider incident occurred near Lienz in Tyrol, Austria, last April. As a glider approached a mountain ridge a male golden eagle flew alongside and up and down at a distance of 20 yards.

If the glider pilot had known anything about birds he would have realised it was the eagle's way of courteously warning rivals not to trespass on his territory.

Mating golden eagles claim territory covering several Alpine valleys, and the male circles the ridges to stake their claim, as it were.

These ridges just happen to be where glider and hang glider pilots head for the best upcurrents.

If the intruder fails to heed the warning the eagle will stage one or two mock attacks, then strike in deadly earnest — just as it would attack smaller birds of prey.

When an eagle attacks a glider it usually comes off second-best. In April two eagles died in this way in Tyrol and another had to be put down.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Bird turns on man with a flapping of wings — why?

Mannheimer Morgen

But a glider was also forced to make an emergency landing. The pilot was badly shaken, but otherwise none the worse for the encounter.

A Villach ornithologist, Professor Dieter Strobl, has since sounded the alarm. If glider pilots continue to ignore the eagle's warnings they will jeopardise bids to ensure the survival of the last 42 mating pairs of golden eagles in the Austrian Alps.

Either glider pilots must learn to behave in a natural manner, he argues, or gliding must be prohibited in the Tyrol.

There are similar reasons for attacks by buzzards, hawks and owls on joggers.

Twelve joggers have been treated so far this year by a hospital in Liesach, Switzerland, for profusely bleeding head wounds inflicted by large birds.

Buzzards for one attack both mice and larger prey. In winter when the snow is so deep that mice are out of sight, buzzards, with a wingspan of up to 1.40 metres (4ft 8in), will attack deer.

With their razor-sharp claws and powerful beaks they can blind the deer, sever their jugular veins and kill them.

Now there is a ban on hunting them, buzzards have lost much of their fear of

humans. They can easily attack them in situations such as the following.

An unsuspecting jogger is running toward a tree where buzzards are nesting. That alone is enough to make the birds ready to defend their young, but not enough to make them attack the intruder.

When the jogger has run past the tree and is heading off in the other direction he will be seen by the buzzards as prey on the run. That triggers an immediate attack on the jogger, who is taken completely by surprise.

It is totally against nature for someone such as a jogger to run across country so heedless of his surroundings.

Nature's way would be to keep eyes and ears open, to take cover and to steer a wide berth of potential enemies, running away from them if need be.

Instead the jogger concentrates on breathing deeply and running regularly to the exclusion of virtually everything else, which is so unnatural as to make it hardly surprising that "misunderstandings" occur.

The animals of the forest are doing what comes naturally. The jogger isn't.

Yet there is no cause for panic. The best means of defence would be to jog with an eye on nature, animals and the beauty of the surroundings.

If this is ruled out by "sporting" considerations, then a simple stick is all that is needed.

If the jogger has a stick in his hand the buzzard will usually not attack, mistaking it for the hunter's rifle.

Swarms of jackdaws attacking women out walking on their own do so because of an entirely different misunderstanding.

Such "inexplicable" attacks presuppose two points: first, a daw must just have disappeared and been "reported missing," whereupon the flock sets out in search of it.

Second, the woman must have a black handbag (or a boy must have a pair of black swimming trunks in his hand). The daws will mistake this object for the missing bird in an enemy's fangs.

The alarm is sounded and within minutes the entire flock descends on the presumed miscreant in a bid to force it

to release the captive "bird." Crowds of ravens make the same mistake.

Even small birds such as mountain finches, or bramblings, which are bigger than sparrows, can put the wary up unsuspecting humans.

In November 1977 a commercial traveller was driving along a street lined with beech trees in a high-class residential suburb of Munich. Suddenly the darkened and millions of mountain finches descended.

They crashed into his car window, and his bodywork as though they were determined to smash through it and get to his death.

He braked hard, skidded on a wet road, crashed into a tree. The car behind him crashed into his car too.

Neither motorist dared to get out and inspect the damage. The birds were all there by the thousand, squeaking with rage. Could there possibly have been anything more like Hitchcock in real life?

The millions of bramblings were fresh from the Siberian taiga, where the numbers had grown unnaturally, and on their way to warmer climes further south.

They planned to stop for a snack and had sighted the beechnuts that lined the road. Never having seen cars or roads before they saw no reason to pay any attention to them.

That, then, was how yet another misunderstanding occurred.

Periodic attacks by the capercaillie, relative of the pheasant, on lone hikers are particularly tragic. Suddenly it will descend from a tree and attack the hiker's bare head.

And to say, the capercaillie can be extremely aggressive during the mating period. It would normally fight off its kind in competition for the favoured females of the species.

But the capercaillie population is declining rapidly as civilisation takes toll of the bird's habitat. It faces extinction.

A male capercaillie can go through its mating routine for as long as 20 days without setting sight on a single rival, let alone a female. Loneliness drives the bird mad.

It will attack deer, cows and even horses and eventually abandon its ingrained fear of humans and attack them too if they intrude on its territory.

That, then, is the sad truth about attacks by allegedly evil birds on harmless humans.

Vitus B. Dröschler
(Mannheimer Morgen, 11 June 1985)

Continued from page 11

of Thalia, the goddess of drama, 12 metres tall.

Thalia, the programme said, was to be consumed in a fire of passion. But in the event the idea paled in comparison with the real-life inferno nearby. So, as it turned out, the lady was not for burning.

What the Brazilian company made of Romeo and Juliet was Shakespeare from a cocktail mixer.

The Portuguese dialogue showed little sign of poetry, the production relying on scenic extravaganzas.

Juliet dragged on stage a ladder as her balcony, and Romeo clambered over it with a rope.

He pushed a box on stage, opened the lid, and the scene was set for their glorious night.

Marianne Rosenbaum's *Alice in Männerland* provided her with an opportunity of working off her frustration with Germany.

She used all the slogans in the book, despite hard work and music by Konstantin Wecker her *Alice* was a failure.

Gaia Scianzu from Italy was most successful with a metropolitan fantasy entitled *Souls*, we were *Els Comedians* from Spain.

Other highlights included an all-out cast from New York as primadonnas of the Gran Senta Opera and Mike Figgis' *City Animals* from London.

The Werktheater from Amsterdam and the Squat Theatre from New York were very much to the fore. So was Alexej Sagerer's Munich *ProT* — a pleasant surprise.

Work commissioned for Jürg Laatz and Daniel Karasck, *Die Sekretäre und das Tier. Plötzlich und Mondsee*, was less satisfactory.

Amin El-Hachimi
(Die Welt, Bonn, 11 June 1985)

EDUCATION

75th birthday of 'small school that tries to make the whole world move'

Frankfurter Rundschau

Odenwaldschule has 270 pupils who make the full 13 years of primary and secondary schooling.

Half of those who graduate with the matur, or university entrance qualification, also have qualifications as fitters, painters or laboratory assistants.

This indicates the breadth of instruction. In addition to the full range of formal subjects, more is taught in supplementary courses.

In the senior school there are only 20 pupils, but they can take all subjects except music and sport to advanced levels.

Concentrated classes are run for pupils who come to the school with deficiencies in certain subjects.

Pupils have often failed in the conventional system and children from broken homes who find it difficult to learn.

Some education authorities send on them pupils.

About 25 per cent of pupils are state-funded and 15 per cent have scholarships. Otherwise fees are 20,000 marks a year.

This year, the school celebrates its 75th anniversary. To mark the occasion, 100 visitors are expected.

The 400 pupils and staff will face a year that has been worrying the organisation for months.

It comes of wanting to make the whole world move when you are only a small school, says headmaster Gerold Becker.

The Odenwaldschule has had high-flying ambitions ever since Paul Geheeb applied to the grand-duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt for permission to found it in 1910.

It was to be a model school of interest to "the widest range of people keen to see the most advanced educational theory put into practice, showing what education can achieve with the best pupils in the best conditions."

When Geheeb wrote these words the *Linderziehungsheim*, or country schools movement, was 11 years old and the number of schools had already mushroomed.

The Odenwaldschule has retained the interest of the widest range of people. Plans for comprehensive schools in the late 1960s were based on the Odenwaldschule and the Swedish comprehensive school system.

The aim of comprehensive school education was to cater for all pupils and no longer, as a matter of principle, distinguish between streams with different academic targets in the way the conventional *Hauptschule*, *Realschule* and *Gymnasium* did.

And when the Robert Bosch Foundation

Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

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FRONTIERS

Collecting little bottles can lead to bigger things

Collecting things is a much-liked pastime in Germany. A good example of how addictive the habit can become is Der Verein der Miniflaschensammler (Club for miniature-bottle collectors). It was founded just a year ago by 15 people and now has 84 members throughout the country. It even produces its own news sheet.

One member is Matthias Pfeifer, a cadet army officer from Limburg, in Hesse.

When he and his girlfriend, Barbara Polkahn, were on holiday in Scotland, they were given a miniature bottle of whisky as a present and they were so impressed that they decided together to begin collecting.

They now have 1,500 little bottles filling a living-room wall of more than 10 square metres.

And all the bottles are full. That is a matter of honour. Serious collectors keep bottles sealed to rule out any chance of evaporation.

Life at the dead end of town

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, Bonn city tourist guides Tina Wedel and Adelheid Schmitz-Brodam take groups of tourists to the best-known cemetery in the Federal capital — the Alten Friedhof (the old cemetery).

There have been no regular burials here since 1884 because only prominent Bonn burghers or members of families with existing graves are buried here now.

In 1983, the cemetery was listed under laws governing preservation of monuments.

People visit this oasis of green on the outskirts of the city to see a piece of history told on gravestones. Prominent among the dead are people well-known in the liberal arts, politics and the arts.

The cemetery was originally laid out for the poor outside the walls of the city in 1715 by Prince Josef Clemens, of Cologne. But in 1787 it became a cemetery for general use.

The mother of Beethoven is there. So is composer Robert Schumann and his wife, Clara Wied; the wife of poet and dramatist Friedrich Schiller; political writer and poet Ernst Moritz Arndt; geologist Noeggerath; poet and philologist Karl Simrock; and historian and diplomat Barthold Georg Niebuhr.

It is a place which reveals something of the lifestyle of an entire epoch — reflected in the architecture.

Many of the gravestones are towering reminders of what attitudes to life and death once were.

Among designers of the stones were such sculptors as Christian Rauch, Karl Friedrich Schinkel, Stüler and Alfinger. Illustrated on the stones are tragic and less-tragic fates of the deceased.

The chapel has a history of its own. It was built in the 13th century in late Romanesque style on the site of a charity founded by a religious order on the other side of the Rhine.

Between 1846 and 1850, it was brought across stone by stone and reassembled in among the copper beech trees of the cemetery.

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 13 June 1985)

Collectors meet every three months so they can swap both talk and bottles.

Pfeifer and Polkahn, who have now decided to get married (see what collecting can do!) have begun a filing-card system to keep all their information.

Others use home computers. Very important when it is considered that the club chairman, Klaus-Eckhardt Bercht, has more than 10,000 minis in his collection in Hanover.

He collects all bottles, but others specialise — whisky, cognac, vodka or gin, for example.

Those who want to find out more about the different alcohols, brewing processes or the history of a bottle can get help from the club newsletter.

One edition, for example, has contributions over drinks in Finland, monastery breweries and miniature bottles in world literature.

Members write to collectors in other countries — in Australia, New Zealand and Japan, for example. In America alone, there are 14 clubs.

Members who discover a new shop somewhere always go in on the off chance of finding a new bottle or a special jubilee edition bottle. But the size limit is half a litre.

Collectors like Pfeifer and Polkahn get a kick out of their hobby by picking up the little, subtle differences that an outsider would not recognise but which make a big difference — shades of colour on the label, for example, or different types of top.

It must be admitted some collectors do tire of it. In the latest newsletter, a member from Dortmund advertises: "Complete set of 450 miniature whisky bottles for sale. Minimum offer DM6,500."

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 10 June 1985)



Berlin policewoman (top) and horse... lots of barriers broken.



Corks stay on to prevent evaporation... Matthias Pfeifer and his collection.

Women on the march in Berlin's police

Frankfurter
Neue Presse

Women are on the march in the Berlin police: there are almost 400 on patrol duties and in the various specialist units.

A police spokesman told journalists that two are being trained to become the first mounted policewomen in West Germany.

It is anticipated that the first women for the city's water police will be trained next year. The first woman dog handler has already taken up duties. Just what police women can do was demonstrated when two females who are being given technical training used a circular saw to sharpen a tree trunk into a stake in a few minutes. Depending on interest and aptitude, they might be later trained as, for example, divers, boat commanders or driving teachers. There have been women members of the Berlin criminal investigation department for a long time, but only in the uniformed branch only since 1978. More opportunities are occurring for women because of a lack of recruits. Only a quarter of all applicants can be accepted because of education and health requirements.

dpa

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 7 June 1985)

Politicians now prefer to puff in private

When politicians gather, there is usually plenty of fire and smoke. But it's not always just of the hot type.

Especially in the past, some prominent people in politics used tobacco as part of their public image.

Winston Churchill was one of the best-known cigar smokers. Another, Ludwig Erhard, the Chancellor in days of the economic miracle.

Churchill distributed cigars on his trips and some have found their way into museums.

President Tito of Yugoslavia used to smoke thick Havana cigars. They were nicotine-free and specially imported from Cuba.

But what about today? Can people in politics get away with being publicly associated with tobacco?

Evidence to a meeting of the Bundestag health committee suggests that the link with tobacco could even damage the political image.

In the Federal Cabinet, smokers number non-smokers by 10 to 8, but a majority does not make itself so obvious.

Chancellor Kohl is seen less and less publicly with his pipe. Justice Minister Hans Engelhard, Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann and Chancellor Minister Wolfgang Schäuble prefer their pipes in private rather than in public.

The Minister of Posts, Christa Schwarz-Schilling, smokes cigars. Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber and Economic Affairs Minister Manfred Bamberger also smoke, but only occasionally.

Employment Minister Norbert Blum went over from cigarettes to a pipe in 1984 and he still contributes to the million marks each year that tax breaks in his attitude is characterised by his comment: "Free people should be allowed to smoke freely."

The non-smoking ranks are headed by Bonn President Richard Weizsäcker and, as a good example, the Health Minister Heiner Geissler, who is also the Minister for Youth and Family Affairs.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 11 June 1985)

HEALTH

The unchanged principles of music therapy

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Music therapy is both an age-old and ultra-modern form of treating the sick.

The musical and healing rituals practised by civilised peoples as far back as 3,000 years ago pursued very much the same objective as the forms of music therapy available in modern-day clinics and out-patient facilities.

Today, music therapy is applied to a wide variety of medical problems ranging from premature births to the incurably sick and the dying.

A growing number of the "classic" forms of psychotherapy are finding their way into music therapy.

This became clear during an international congress organised by the German Society for Music Therapy in Heidelberg.

Around 800 people attended the scientific forum to discuss the use of music to treat the seriously disabled or ill.

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The only official qualification is provided by a special college run by the "Rehabilitation Foundation" in Heidelberg.

The university of Witten-Herdecke offers a foundation course for musicians, whereas beginning in October medical and psychology students will be able to take part in a research study course in Hamburg.

As the chairman of the German Society for Music Therapy, Professor Johannes Eschen, remarked, there is still a great need for music therapists.

Many psychiatric and psychosomatic clinics would like to employ properly qualified therapists. It is hoped that they will be able to make use of the many forms of musical expression to help "where words have failed".

A research team at a university children's clinic in Munich has gone a step further. Its medical treatment of prematurely born babies now includes "acoustic stimulation".

Words spoken by the child's mother are recorded on tape and played for the baby. Research findings so far show that the child becomes more active and lively.

In addition, the "dendritic links" of the nervous system develop much faster, which reduces the risk of a respiratory standstill.

Big influence

Other papers given during the congress explained that music therapy is able to activate the cerebral cortex and has a positive effect on the whole organism.

Must speakers in Heidelberg, however, concentrated on the significance of music therapy for the treatment of psychological problems. A number of schools of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy (about 80 already in the USA) are trying to influence music therapy.

Professor Joseph Moreno, an American music therapist, pointed out another important aspect.

The shamans of ancient civilisations, he said, used various kinds of artistic expression — dancing, painting, theatre and music — to initiate a process of healing.

In doing so, the patient's whole family was involved, i.e. a kind of early family therapy.

Bearing this in mind, Moreno called for a form of music therapy which is as comprehensive as possible.

Michael Odenwald
(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 7 June 1985)

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National group set up to aid mentally ill and families

A federal association has been established by relatives of mentally ill people.

It aims to improve the living conditions of families and their sick relatives.

The first step is to strengthen the self-help of families by setting up local self-help groups.

The new association, in Bonn, will coordinate activities nationwide.

Otherwise, its aims are much the same as demands made by a Federal government commission of inquiry in 1975.

This said that the mentally ill should have the same legal status as other sick and handicapped people, especially in vocational rehabilitation.

The committee said discrimination should be reduced and the network of psychiatric treatment at local level should be quickly expanded.

The new organisation at federal level is an important step on the way to redefining the fringe role of this group in psychiatry and establishing its new self-awareness.

As opposed to other countries such as France and Britain, where the relatives of the mentally ill have been having their say at a national level since 1963 and 1970 respectively, the first move towards a similar organisation in the Federal Republic of Germany was made during the 1970s.

A major reason for the difficulty in confronting the problem in this country has been the after-effect of the murder of 100,000 mentally-ill people during the Hitler era. This has left feelings of shame and guilt.

Another reason why relatives of the mentally ill have hidden away for so long is because of the way "we professionals have treated them", said Josef Schädle from the German Society for Social Psychiatry during the association's first official meeting.

In his book *Freispruch der Familie* (Acquittal of the Family) Professor Klaus Dörner wrote in 1980: "The relatives are not accepted as people who suffer but rather as people who punish, and left alone in their suffering, without being able to regularly discuss their problems with somebody who will understand."

Prominent psychiatrists have encouraged the formation of groups to deal with these problems.

The Evangelical Academy in Bad

Beuel and, above all, the umbrella organisation of psychosocial relief organisations have held numerous conferences on this problem during recent years.

The first meeting between local groups of relatives at federal level took place in 1982.

Today, there are 200 to 300 local groups, the largest of which are in Stuttgart and Bonn (each with 100 members).

Most of the groups were set up following a suggestion to do so by a clinic doctor, therapist, psychologist or social worker.

Members of these professions are now eager to establish a good relationship with the relatives in the interests of the patient's well-being.

Most people who suffer from serious mental illnesses (one per cent of the total population in the Federal Republic of Germany) live at home with their families.

Backed by an organisation at federal level the relatives of the mentally ill now have the possibility of exercising greater influence, for example, when new laws are passed in this field.

The chairman of the statutes committee, Edgar Pommerin, emphasised a further beneficial effect of the new association for the individuals affected: less public prejudice as people realise that the relatives of the mentally ill are "people like you and I".

"They are not branded for life or anti-social but neighbours, colleagues, just like anybody else."

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 June 1985)

Optimism over treatment of depression

The therapeutic resources available to treat depression have never been so good, according to a psychiatrist, Professor G. A. Rudolf, of Münster.

He told a conference in Frankfurt that doctors now only needed to make use of three or four drugs.

He said doctors should prescribe tranquillisers for depression, but for serious mental disturbances they should use medicines or antipsychotics and antidepressants.

A depression was presumed to exist if there was a clear difference between a bad mood and an illness in need of treatment.

"A person's state of mind, sleeping habits, lack of ability to take decisions or lack of interest were possible signs of a depression."

Rudolf challenged claims that there were more people depressed today than ever before.

However, more diagnoses of this kind were being made today because greater attention was being given to the symptoms of depression and people were more willing to talk openly about their depression.

An estimated 1.5 million West Germans had depression capable of being treated.

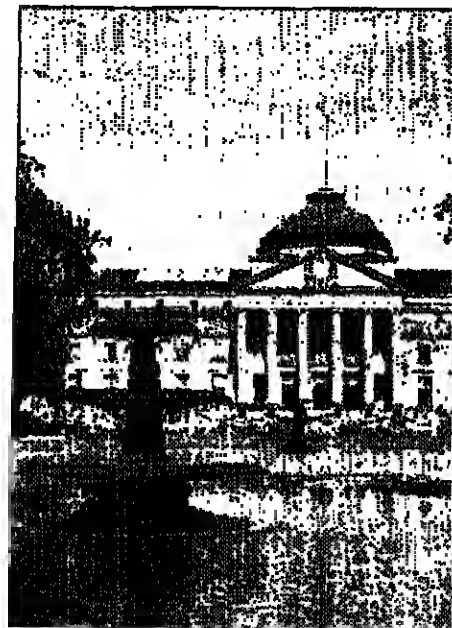
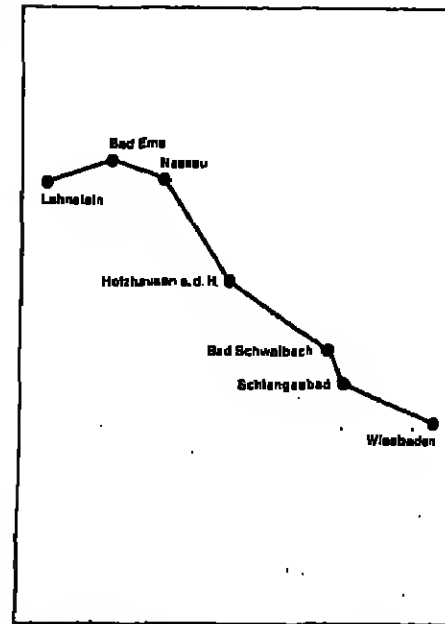
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(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 11 June 1985)

Johannes Eschen

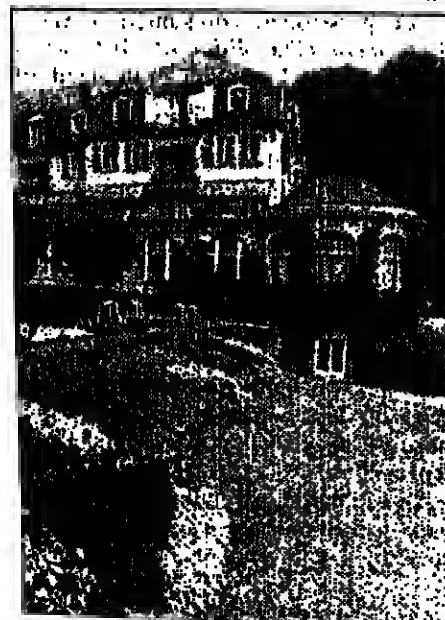
Routes to tour in Germany

The Spa Route



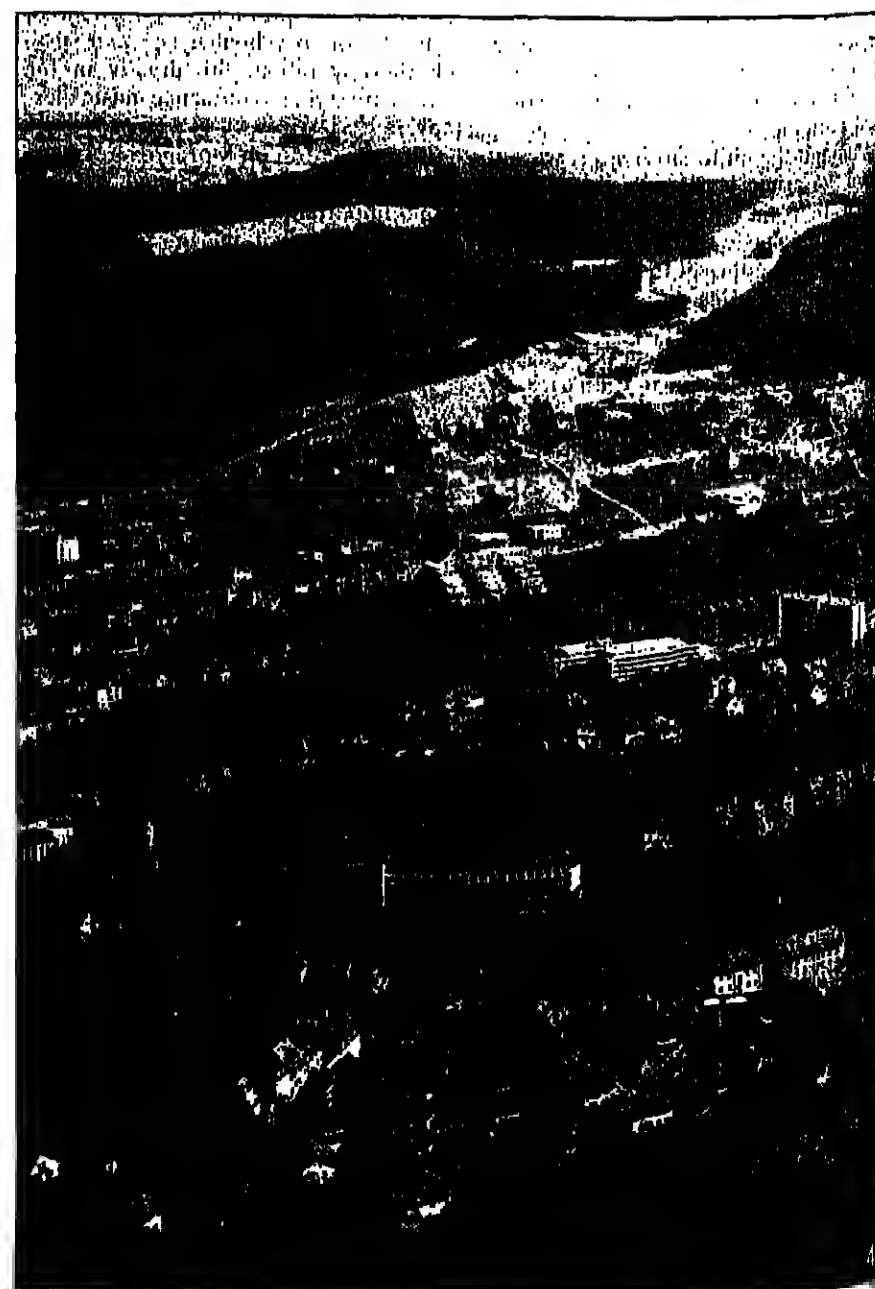
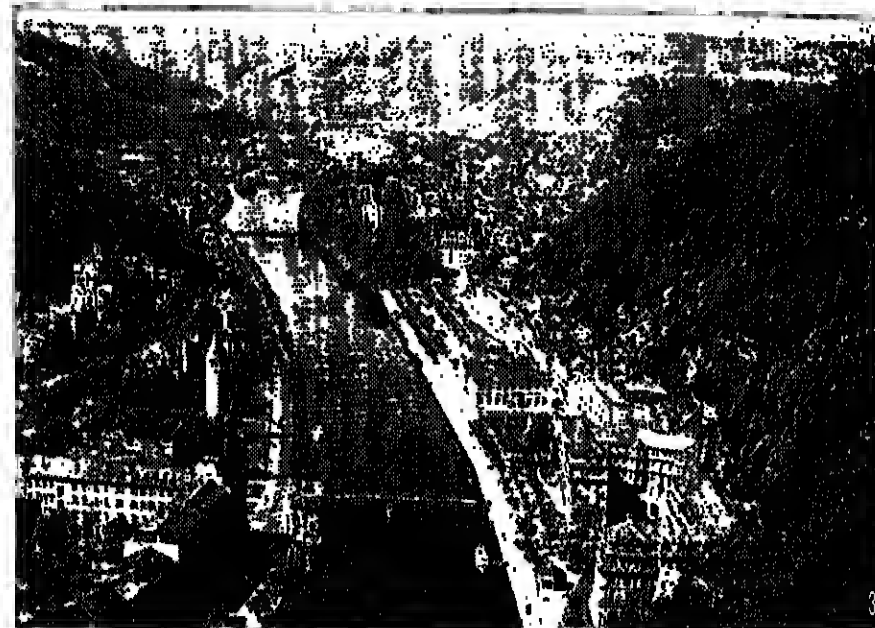
German roads will get you there, say to spas and health resorts spread not all over the country but along a route easily travelled and scenically attractive. From Lahnstein, opposite Koblenz, the Spa Route runs along the wooded chain of hills that border the Rhine valley. Health cures in these resorts are particularly successful in dealing with rheumatism and gynaecological disorders and cardiac and circulatory complaints. Even if you haven't enough time to take a full course of treatment, you ought to take a look at a few pump rooms and sanatoriums. In Bad Ems you must not miss the historic inn known as the *Wirtshaus an der Lahn*. In Bad Schwalbach see for yourself the magnificent *Kurpark*. Take a walk round the Kurpark in Wiesbaden and see the city's casino. Elegant Wiesbaden dates back to the late 19th century Wilhelminian era.

Visit Germany and let the Spa Route be your guide.



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